

Sex offence reforms may extend rape law to couples living apart

By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

An extension of the law of rape to cover husbands and wives living apart, and a new maximum penalty of life imprisonment for attempted rape, instead of the present seven years, are among radical reforms of the law on sexual offences urged by the Criminal Law Revision Committee published yesterday.

The Government is expected to implement the proposals which deal with offences such as rape, indecent assault, buggery and incest.

The report also urges a new 10-year maximum penalty for indecent assault against both sexes and the abolition of buggery as an offence between men and women where there is consent.

The right to anonymity in court for a man accused of rape should be abolished, the committee said, and the presumption that no boy aged under 14 is capable of sexual intercourse and rape should be scrapped.

It also recommends that restrictions on cross-examination of a woman about her previous sexual history with other men, unless the judge gives leave, should be extended to include her relations with the defendant.

The report, the product of eight years' work by the 17-member committee of senior judges and lawyers under the chairmanship of Lord Justice Lawton, comes after its own working paper in 1980 and that of the Policy Advisory Committee on Sexual Offences in 1981.

The most significant change since the working paper is the new maximum penalty for indecent assault, increased from five to 10 years.

Lord Justice Lawton said yesterday: "Members of the public clearly took the view that some of the indecent assaults were terribly serious, some even worse than rape, so clearly something had to be done."

Under present law, there is a 10-year maximum penalty for indecent assault against a man, but only of two years against a woman.

Now, buggery is an offence except between two consenting males aged over 21, punishable with up to life imprisonment where committed against a woman, or a boy aged under 16.

The committee proposes abolishing the offence between a man and a consenting woman aged over 16. But it should remain an offence punishable with life imprisonment with a non-consenting adult, or child aged under 13. The penalty with a girl under 16 is five years.

Despite a strong lobby from women's groups and the majority view of the policy advisory committee, the criminal law committee rejected extending rape law to marriage except where the couple is living apart.

Incest, at present an offence at all ages, should be permitted between brother and sister aged over 21, but would remain an offence between parent, children, and grandchildren.

Lord Justice Lawton said that the proposal would cover the rare cases where a brother and sister were divided at infancy, met later in life and fell in love. It was not in the public interest to bring such cases to court, he said.

But the committee urges incest to be extended to cover adoptive as well as blood relationships and a separate offence of unlawful sexual intercourse with a stepchild aged under 21.

It also recommends a new offence to cover heterosexual and homosexual acts in public, which would include clubs and places of common resort, as well as places seen from a public place. There should be a specific new offence for homosexual acts in public lavatories, it says.

Sexual offences: 15th report of the Criminal Law Revision Committee Cmdnd 9213 (Stationery Office £6.40).

Children are honoured for bravery

Two children received special awards from Princess Alexandra yesterday as a reward for their courage.

Samantha Lewis, aged nine, from Tolworth, Surrey, rescued her brother James, aged three, from drowning in a French lake last summer.

Samantha (seen above with her brother) swam out to James after he got into difficulties and hauled him towards the shore.

"It was nothing really", she told the Princess at the award ceremony in London.

Samantha was joint winner in the youngest age group of the Britannia Young Citizens' Award in memory of Ross McWhirter, to promote good citizenship.

Barry Tippet, co-winner, aged 11, from Polperro, Cornwall, tackled a kitchen fire and led his mother to safety.

He beat out the flames with a jacket and soaked a towel with water to wrap round his mother's badly burned wrists.

He is seen (right) talking to Mr Angus Ogilvy, one of the judges of the awards. (Photographs: Harry Kerr).

Warning on aspirins by public analyst

By Robin Young

Local authorities lack powers to protect the public from deteriorated drugs and worthless health products, the Association of Public Analysts claims in its annual report published today.

"The control of medicinal products at retail outlets is still virtually non-existent", the report says.

Mr Peter Martin, public analyst for Berkshire and Oxfordshire, told the association's annual meeting in Norwich that a survey in his counties suggested that nearly 30 tons of substandard aspirins, likely to cause internal bleeding, are waiting to be sold from Britain's non-pharmacy outlets.

He said: "In our survey 8 per cent of the samples had become unstable and contained an excess of salicylic acid over the amount permitted by the British Pharmacopoeia."

The analysts also fear that health foods are inadequately controlled.

Carcinogenic mycotoxins have been discovered in nuts and fruit juices, the report says, but although there are statutory regulations against their presence in animal feeds, there are still no legal limits for food sold for human consumption.

The report says: "So-called health foods are often deficient in protein or caloric value, or bear exaggerated claims on the labels."

Wine box sales rise

Wine boxes could account for a quarter of all the wine sold in Britain within three years, a leading supplier said yesterday. Since their launch in 1981, wine boxes have taken more than 10 per cent of the UK market and the Budget, which cut 77p of a three-litre box, is expected to boost sales Mr Steve Duncan, of Colman's of Norwich, said.

Embryo research defended

From Thomson Prentice Science Correspondent Cambridge

Scientists had a moral obligation to use "spare" human embryos for research and it would be immoral not to investigate them and keep them in storage, Mr Patrick Steptoe, one of the pioneers of test-tube baby techniques, said yesterday.

Mr Steptoe, who with his colleague Dr Robert Edwards has supervised the birth of 202 test-tube babies since 1978, said: "We treat these embryos with great care and respect and there is an enormous responsibility on us concerning their storage either for later implantation for scientific research."

Mr Steptoe was speaking after addressing the British Medical Association's annual scientific meeting in Cambridge. He confirmed that he and his colleagues at Bourn Hall Clinic could deep freeze human embryos in a technique that had already led to the birth of a baby from such an embryo.

Sellafield villagers offered body scans

By Pearce Wright, Science Editor

People living near the Sellafield (formerly Winscale) nuclear waste plant in Cumbria will be able to have their bodies scanned for radioactivity from next Tuesday.

A mobile whole body monitor, similar to the earlier mobile mass X-ray screening units, has been installed in a trailer so that any member of the public wanting a check-up can be screened in about 20 minutes.

Individuals will be given a certificate showing how much radioactive material of natural origin is in their body and how much from artificial sources, such as nuclear fall-out and waste.

The screening programme will be carried out by the National Radiological Protection Board and its findings will be made available, without the disclosure of identities, to Sir Douglas Black, the former president of the Royal College of Physicians.

He is investigating allegations that villagers near Sellafield have a higher than normal incidence of cancers, particularly leukaemia in children, because of the presence of radioactive

contamination from Sellafield.

Mr John Dunster, director of the protection board, said yesterday: "Although most of the radioactive materials measured are likely to be of natural origin, the measurements will indicate whether people living in Seascale have a higher level of body radioactivity which could be the result of the operations at the Sellafield works."

More important, he said, it could show if there was some route by which radioactive materials from waste entered the body which had not been recognized by doctors and scientists monitoring land, water, air, milk and plants in the area.

Contaminated beaches near Sellafield are not expected to be open for Easter, despite a huge cleaning operation (the Press Association report). People have been advised to stay away from 15 miles of beaches since last November.

Mr William Waldegrave, Under Secretary of State for the Environment, is to visit the beaches and tour the plant today.

House valuers report 11% price rise

By Christopher Warman, Property Correspondent

An optimistic view of the housing market for the next few months emerges from the latest Financial Weekly/Incorporated Society of Valuers and Auctioneers survey, published today.

The survey shows an increase of 11 per cent in average prices during the past 12 months, and of 2.5 per cent in the first three months of this year.

Both figures are higher than those published earlier this week by the Halifax Building Society, whose new and comprehensive index showed a respective increase of 7.3 per cent and 0.5 per cent.

The survey was done a week after the Budget and shortly after the mortgage rate reduction and stamp duty

changes. With few exceptions the valuers responding to the survey were sure the recovery would continue and accelerate during the spring and early summer, provided there was no big reduction in investments in building societies and provided the economic recovery is sustained.

The survey reports a nationwide increase in demand for properties suited to first-time buyers. The trend is likely to be emphasized in coming months by the raising of the stamp duty threshold to £30,000, which has removed a tax burden for many first-time buyers.

However, there appears to be poor demand for modern executive-style four-bedroom

properties. The survey admits it is unclear whether the boom in the first-time buyers' market ultimately works through the system to increase demand for dearer properties.

This is because demand for this type of house may continue to be depressed in areas where potential purchasers are unwilling to take on large mortgages while security of employment is in doubt.

The survey says: "If this situation continues, then some areas of the country may experience shortages at the bottom end of the market with prices moving up sharply due to increases in demand, with prices continuing to stagnate at the top end of the market."

Resistance memories

Mrs Odette Hallows (far left), who won the George Cross for her work in the Resistance in France, and Lady Airey, widow of Airey Neave who was involved with Resistance as an evasion expert, at the Imperial War Museum yesterday. They drank wine brought in a canister originally containing supplies parachuted into occupied France. (Photograph: John Manning).

Programme makers want satellite deal

By David Hewson, Arts Correspondent

Britain's independent television programme makers are making a last-minute effort to win a stake in the direct broadcast deal being struck by the Government, the BBC and the ITV companies' group was formed by the creation of Channel 4, which accounts for most of their £50m worth of programme finance. They fear that the BBC-ITV satellite partnership will force many independent producers out of business by increasing their production costs to match those of ITV.

The producers pay staff union rates based on an independent agreement but do not add the 20 to 40 per cent local increases negotiated in most ITV companies.

That means the cost of independent programmes is about two-thirds of that of the

same production mounted in-house by ITV or the BBC.

The ITV companies expect this year's advertising revenue to reach a record of £1 billion.

The independents fear that that will continue to inflate ITV's already high pay scales, and quote a Thames Television executive who revealed that the average salary of all staff within the company, from doorman to director, is £17,000.

Mr Martin Tempia, administrator of the Independent Programme Producers' Association, said yesterday: "The ITV set-up is Fleet Street writ large, with the unions being bought off at the same time as investors receive huge dividends. With revenue of £950m to £1 billion a year they are in a position to buy their way out of trouble."

The association has suggested that the Government gives 4 per cent of the output on the

satellite to independent producers.

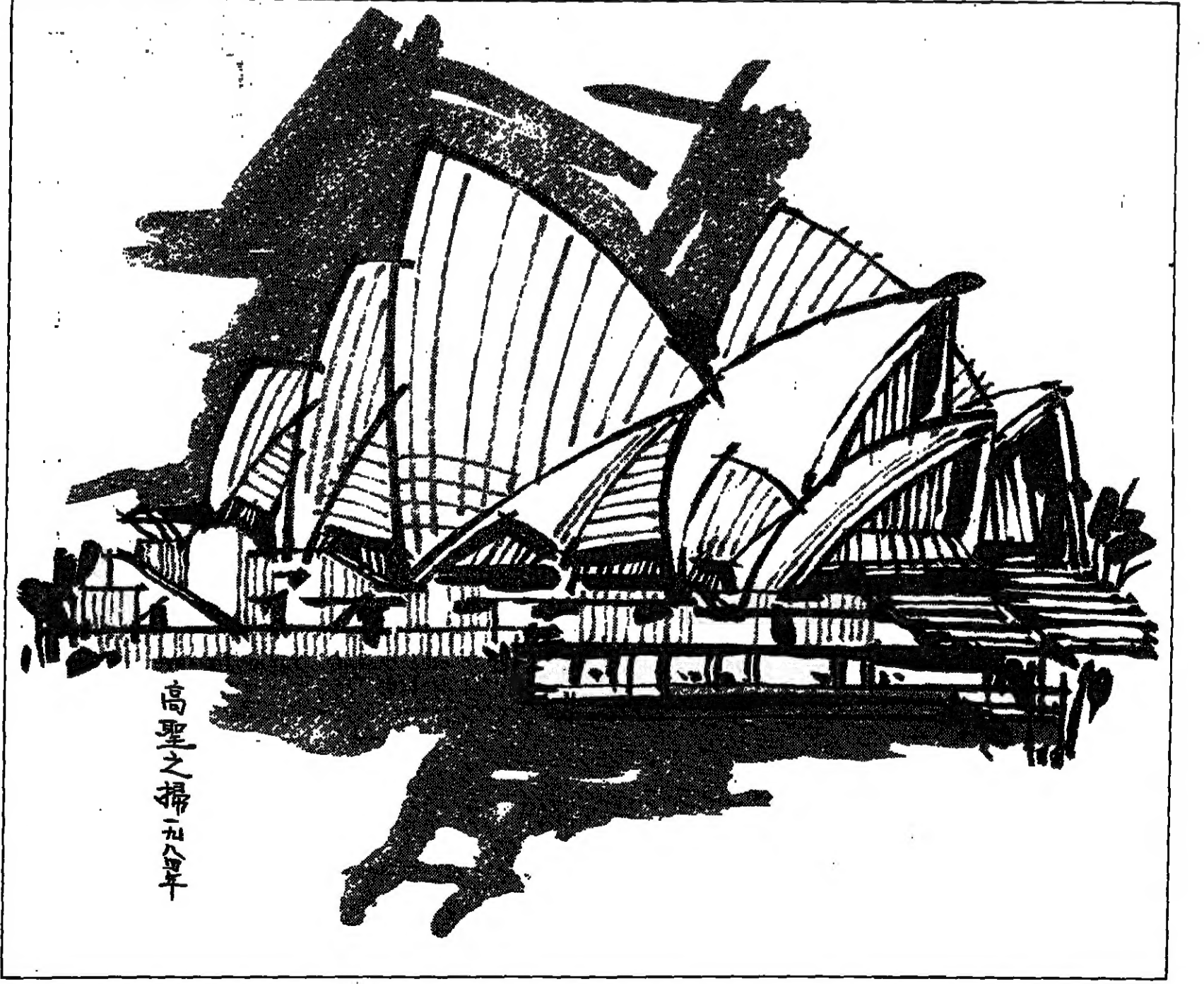
However, Mr Jeremy Wallington, chief executive of the independent London studios, Limehouse, said the independent sector might also be able to secure backers for a direct stake in the scheme.

He said that if ITV companies get their franchises extended as part of the deal, it will deprive many people in the independent sector of the chance to compete for ITV licences until the mid-1990s.

TV-am's new man

Mr Michael Moore, aged 35, advertisement director at News Group Newspapers, which owns The Sun and News of the World, joins TV-am as general manager at the end of this month (the Press Association reports).

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Navy to get American Harpoon missiles

DEFENCE

The Government has decided to buy the McDonnell Douglas Harpoon surface-to-surface guided missile for Royal Navy frigates. Mr Geoffrey Pattie, Minister of State for Defence Procurement, announced in a statement to the Commons, McDonnell Douglas, he added, had undertaken to provide off-set work for British industry to the value of 130 per cent of the cost of the Harpoon order.

He also announced that the Government had placed a firm contract with British Aerospace for the full development and initial production of the vertically launched version of the Sea Wolf surface-to-air missile for the Navy.

Mr Pattie said: For some months we have been conducting a competition for a second generation surface-to-surface guided missile for the four batch III type 23 frigates and the first eight type 23 frigates. The contenders for the British Aerospace's Sea Wolf, McDonnell Douglas's Harpoon, and the American Sea Sparrow, all of which are in service with the Royal Navy and Royal Air Force.

industry and on sub-Harpoon their off-set eventually totalled one-and-a-half times the purchase price. Another important consideration was the need to reduce as far as possible the uncertainties caused by future exchange rate fluctuations.

In this respect we have achieved an agreement with McDonnell Douglas that 30 per cent of the value of the contract will be payable in sterling.

The Government are convinced that this decision is right for the Royal Navy and right for the taxpayer, and is also entirely satisfactory in employment terms for British industry.

In addition, I am also glad to be able to inform the House that today we have authorised the placing of a firm contract with British Aerospace for the full development and initial production of the vertically launched version of the Sea Wolf surface-to-air missile for the Royal Navy's type 23 frigates.

This important programme will ensure that Sea Wolf keeps its substantial lead over all its international competitors, and will guarantee that the type 23 frigates have the most modern versatile and devastating point defence missile system available.

This is a programme of major importance for the Royal Navy and British industry. The initial order alone is worth some £250m. Taken alongside the substantial order for the third main production order for conventionally-launched Sea Wolf, this order will sustain the momentum of the programme and, not least, will sustain job opportunities at British Aerospace and their sub-contractors.

The Royal Navy has today acquired two highly effective modern systems which will greatly enhance its operational effectiveness.

Mr Kevin McNamara, an opposition spokesman on defence (Hull North, Lab): The statement is the second major blow which British Aerospace has had in the past few weeks. The subject to agreement with the company on contractual terms and conditions, we will place a fixed price contract worth £130m for Harpoon missiles and associated ship systems for the batch III type 23 and the type 23 frigates. The total value is of the order of £200m.

I recognize that there will be disappointment that we have decided not to buy British for this item of Royal Navy equipment. However, the United Kingdom's position with regard to the high technology involved in advanced missiles has been preserved by our earlier decision to purchase ALARM and air launched Sea Eagle from British Aerospace. I take this opportunity of reaffirming the Ministry of Defence's commitment to air launched Sea Eagle and also of reminding the House that 95 in the MOD's procurement sound is spent in this country.

The employment implications of the various options have been an important consideration in our decision. I am pleased to be able to tell the House that McDonnell Douglas have undertaken to provide off-set work for British industry to the value of 130 per cent of the cost of the Harpoon order, of which half will be in areas of high technology and 50 per cent on the Harpoon programme itself.

McDonnell Douglas' track record on off-set is excellent and their undertaking will be incorporated in the contract. Over the past seven years they have placed well over £300m worth of sub-contracts in the United Kingdom at all levels of

How does he justify this decision against the history of trade with the United States which has been two to one in favour of the United States, excluding Trident? We are giving more to the United States in this matter, excluding arrangements we are trying to make with our NATO European colleagues to have Nato systems developed on this side of the Atlantic.

Are McDonnell Douglas in a position to guarantee the same number of man-years of employment as British Aerospace and to guarantee the same amount of high technology in this country. As 70 per cent of the decision is a gross betrayal of British industry, British technology and British jobs.

Mr Pattie: It is clear that Mr McNamara is having difficulty in finding a suitable target. To suggest that a full-scale development order of £250m is some kind of sop is an indication of Mr McNamara's scale of values. If that is a sop, I should like to know what he considers a major order.

Many British companies, ranging from the nation's highest technology Harpoon programme, will be extremely pleased by the decision.

He talks about the exchange rate being two to one against the United Kingdom, but when his Government came to office in 1979, the exchange rate was four to one.

To characterize the agreement in the terms he has used is nothing more than a travesty of the truth.

Sir Anthony Beck (Colchester North, C): The most important thing is that the Royal Navy should have the finest available equipment. Can he assure us that as a result of the decision that will come about?

Mr Pattie: The prime consideration has to be whether this is the equipment the Royal Navy requires and can he feel that this system will be fully effective in the long term. This system has had 200 successful firings since 1978 and the kind of off-set we made was one we could not afford to ignore.

Mr Russell Johnston (Inverness, Nairn and Lochaber, LP): It is wise in the long term to become so dependent on the United States in weapon systems and related research and development?

Mr Pattie: In the matter of operational difference, the British Aerospace contender was still only under consideration. They took seriously the point he made about defence technology and that had been precisely the point in mind in making the decision on Albatross.

Mr Patrick Duffy (Sheffield, Attercliffe, Lab): His opposite number in Washington would not have the finest available equipment. Mr Pattie: I am fully aware of the protectionist tendencies in the United States, and that they thought they saw those tendencies here when we adopted the Albatross system.

Mr David Young (Bolton South East, Lab): My constituents will see Mr Pattie's statement as a sell-out by this Government to American interests.

Mr Young: I totally repudiate what Mr Young has said about a sell-out. It is the most effective use of the

basic jet trainer is to go to a foreign competitor and the Sea Eagle decision has been sacrificed to American competitors against all the criteria laid down by the Minister of State when writing about these matters. He said then that in discussing orders we should discuss the possible deterioration of the value of the pound, national consumption and infrastructure and problems of the break-up of British design teams and our international lead.

Roughly £40m to £42m of the Harpoon order will be at a fixed price. What about the rest? Will the other 70 per cent be subject to the fluctuations of the market and more particularly, in view of recent history, will it be more expensive for us?



Pattie: Commitment to British Sea Eagle

defence budget and we are satisfied that the technology base has been secured.

Mr Marshall Marshall (Arun, C): asked if there were likely to be any further announcements to encourage British interests. Mr Pattie said it was confidently expected that the US Navy would buy the Marconi system in their important VNF and communications contract.

Mr Douglas Hoyle (Warrington North, Lab): British technology can not be thrown away in this way. Mr Pattie quite rightly said that 10,000 jobs could be at risk.

Would it not have been better for British interests not to have been acting as a Washington puppet?

Mr Pattie: Those in Washington who have had to do business with me in the past will be somewhat amused to hear me described in these terms.

I repudiate the figure of 10,000 jobs at risk. We are talking about a whole lot of jobs safeguarded and new opportunities created.

Mr Ernest Ross (Dundee West, Lab): said the Americans stood up for their own interests but Mr Pattie regularly failed to do so.

Mr Pattie said the design teams in Britain would like every single order, no matter what degree of overloading this led to. But the technology Britain needed had been safeguarded.

Mr Winston Churchill (Davythwaite, C): said one of the factors in the choice of the Harpoon was the fact that the Royal Navy had acquired the sub-Harpoon in the 1970s when the Labour Government was in office.

Mr Tom Dulyell (Linlithgow, Lab): Is not the track record of McDonnell Douglas that they go to some British sub-contractors for the simple operations but for the high technology sophisticated operations they will as always in the past go to American high technology sub-contractors? Do we not lose out on that?

Mr Pattie: The office arrangements which I described to the House in overall terms also include a significant proportion of high technology work. The United States know well that we are not satisfied with tin bashing.

Mr Bowen Wells (Hertford and Stortford, C): Will he assure me that the research and development under his department and British Aerospace in air-launched Sea Eagle will not be thrown away by this decision and that the family of missiles which should eventually result in a land-launched Sea Eagle will not be jeopardized?

Mr Pattie: The technology that is relevant to his department and British Aerospace in air-launched Sea Eagle will continue by definition. We would be happy to consider any future developments which British Aerospace wanted to discuss with us.

Royal Assent

The following Acts received the Royal Assent: Road Traffic (Driving Instruction); Lotteries (Amendment); Town and Country Planning; Education (Grants and Awards); Telecommunications; London Docklands; Standard Chartered Bank.

COAL DISPUTE

Many, many miners would be greatly concerned that the chance of a national ballot had been delayed still further by the NUM executive meeting in Sheffield, Mr Margaret Thatcher, the Prime Minister, stated in the Commons.

During questions on the miners' dispute, she condemned the attempt to injure police horses on picket lines with 'silly stunts in pieces of wood as 'disgraceful and callous' behaviour.

She resisted demands from Mr Neil Kinnock, Leader of the Opposition, to instruct Mr Ian MacGregor, coal board chairman, to alter the scale of changes in the mining industry in order to save its future.

Mr Gerard Howarth (Cannock and Burntwood, C) began the exchanges when he said miners in his area were 'extremely disappointed by the NUM decision not to hold an immediate national ballot.'

The proposal to alter the rule book will be seen by many (we went on) as a simple attempt to coerce out on strike men who in the case of my constituency, have voted three to one to carry on working and supporting their families.

Mrs Thatcher: Many, many miners will be greatly concerned that the chance of a national ballot has been delayed still further.

Mr Kinnock: Will she join with me in welcoming the fact that a national ballot of the NUM is now a clearer and closer prospect that it was before today's decision? (Conservative laughter)

It is a much clearer and closer prospect than ballots for the election of a council to run London in the next four years.

Would she address the real issues of the coal mining dispute? She has clearly instructed Mr MacGregor to run down the coal mining industry in substantial part regardless of the cost.

Does not she understand the price of that strategy for the industry, for the communities dependent on the industry and for the country generally, are immense? Will she therefore change that strategy and instruct Mr MacGregor to do the appropriate thing?

Mrs Thatcher: I assume if he welcomes the fact that a national ballot is clearer and closer - and that is his phrase - that he would have preferred it to have been decided today. Perhaps he would make that clear.

The Plan for Coal is as it has always been. In the 11 years of Labour Government some 300 mines were closed; in nine years of Conservative Government 92 have been closed.

Mr Kinnock: In giving instructions on ballots, she is rather in the position of someone in a glasshouse throwing stones. As for comparison with the rundown, throughout the lifetime of the Labour Government there were some jobs for redundancy, there were no jobs to go to. Now there are no jobs to go to.

If she is concerned about cost, she should realise the cost of replacing four million tonnes of coal is likely to be the purchase of Australian coal. As a member of the last Labour Government he supported the illiberal and oppressive trade union and labour relations legislation.

Mr Alan Howarth (Stratford on Avon, C): Does Mrs Thatcher appreciate that the affection by Dr Owen, in speaking his piece on trade union reform, is remarkably unconvincing.

As a member of the last Labour Government he supported the illiberal and oppressive trade union and labour relations legislation.

for deterrent and effective policing the Government is pursuing.

Ms Clare Short (Birmingham Ladywood, Lab): Despite all the Government's rhetoric and the money it has thrown at law and order, it has failed significantly to make our society safer for people to live in.

Will Mr Brittan change direction and look at methods of preventing crime and making inner cities safer to live in?

Slight fall in crime last year

LAW AND ORDER

The number of notifiable offences recorded by the police in 1983 was 1 per cent less than in 1982, Mr Leon Brittan, the Home Secretary, told the Commons at question time.

In London notifiable offences recorded were 4 per cent down.

We should not (he said) make too much of a single year's figures, but I am encouraged by them.

Mr Edward Taylor (South East, C): It is encouraging to have a 1 per cent fall after 10 per cent increases in recent years.

Will this encourage Mr Brittan to proceed with a policy of stronger deterrents against serious crime and therefore provide greater protection to the law-abiding public?

Mr Brittan: The change in the long-term trend is an encouraging one even after making the allowances and qualifications. I welcome Mr Taylor's support for the measures

NUM ballot a closer prospect - Kinnock



Howarth: NUM attempt to coerce

Would it not help to reduce the conflict between the pickets and the police in the coal fields in the present dispute if the union were to lay down in 1984 the same rules they laid down in 1974?

Mr Brittan: I entirely agree, I think if that were advice, which came from the union itself, were repeated today a lot of the trouble we have seen would be avoided.

Mr Joe Ashton (Bassetlaw, Lab): Chief police officers are in control of industrial relations and the Tabbat and Prior Acts are being used to arrest anybody for any offence in order to put them into court, which makes the case sub judice and takes them out of the picket lines. Pickets are being controlled in that way.

Mr Brittan: It would be difficult to make a more inaccurate statement. The so-called Tabbat and Prior laws are not to the hands of the police. They are civil laws and their use or otherwise is up to the civil agencies.

It is strikingly inconsistent with what was said by his side in the debate on the Tabbat and Prior Acts of being in control. Today it is the chief constables being accused. They had better make up their minds. Mr Anthony Bevan (Birmingham, Selly Oak, C): One of the problems with the picketing is that the miners' leaders have made clear they are going to hold the law in contempt. If Scargill and his crew agreed to abide by the law, the police's job would be easier and people would be able to go about their lives in peace.

Mr Brittan: I agree. The presence of such large numbers of police is caused entirely by the fact that if they were not present there would be mass disorder and intimidation.

Mr Gerald Kaufman, chief Opposition spokesman on home affairs: Who is in control? Will he explain where accountability lies when we have a national reporting centre situated in New Scotland Yard, for which he is responsible, with a control room which is controlled as a result of orders given by the President of the Chief Police Officers' Association, in which 43 police authorities are being coordinated by him, without any reference whatsoever to the elected police authorities?

His only accountability appears to be to the executive of the professional association - his trade union - of which he is temporary president.

Mr Brittan: He knows the national reporting centre, which he has visited, is a mechanism whereby the chief officer of police in one county is able to call on assistance from his brethren in other counties. It is simply a clearing house for the obtaining of assistance.

He also knows that in every case the assistance given has been at the request of a chief constable or a chief officer of police. He further knows that the handling of matters of this kind is an operational matter in which the chief constable of the areas concerned is in control.

Right to buy another dwelling

HOUSING

The Government scheme under which housing association tenants will be able to exercise the 'right to buy' homes - though not the association dwelling they are living in - was outlined to the Commons by Sir George Young, Under Secretary of State for the Environment.

He was speaking to Lords amendments to the Housing and Building Control Bill. The scheme gave the cash equivalent of the discount for the purchase of the house in order to help him buy another property of his own choice.

Mr Eric Heffer, chief Opposition spokesman on housing and construction, said the Government's compromise was designed to give tenants and in grave need of reform.

The Lords amendment and government amendments to it were carried by 274 votes to 143-131.

What if Mrs Thatcher is at hairdressers?

NUCLEAR

All realistic possibilities involving nuclear weapons, including the mistaken launching of a cruise missile, had been taken account of by the Government, Lord Trefgarne, Under Secretary of State for the Armed Forces, told the House of Lords during question time.

Lord Kennet (SDP) had asked whether, in the event of a US cruise missile being launched by mistake from British soil, the Soviet Union would be informed by the United States hot-line or the British one.

Lord Trefgarne: The safeguards surrounding the use and custody of nuclear weapons are extremely precise. The possibility of a cruise missile being launched by mistake and the proposition is therefore hypothetical.

The use of hot-lines is not restricted to questions involving

nuclear weapons nor to particular hypothetical scenarios.

Lord Kennet: Nevertheless the question of a hypothetical, remote, ought to be considered, does he know whether the Prime Minister or the Secretary of State knows the answer and is satisfied with that?

Lord Trefgarne: We keep all realistic scenarios, however hypothetical, in mind, so the answer to his question must be yes.

Lord Bishopston (Lab): What would happen if the Prime Minister was at the hairdressers having her hair done for Easter and the President was at a baseball match? How would they be consulted in a matter of four minutes to avoid a nuclear crisis?

Lord Trefgarne: I am lost in admiration for his fertile imagination. As for the launching of nuclear weapons, that is the subject to the procedure that I have described on a number of occasions.

Bill to protect Scottish ratepayers

Ratepayers in Scotland paid around £1,500m a year to Scottish local authorities and the Rating and Valuation (Amendment) (Scotland) Bill was designed to protect them from high expenditure and high rates and to ease the heavy burden on business and commerce which paid more than half the rates bill in Scotland, Lord Gray of Coatbridge, Minister of State for Scotland, said in moving the second reading in the House of Lords.

The Government recognized that there had to be an adequate level of local government services, he said, but local authorities were not entitled to raise whatever taxes they liked to finance them.

The Bill was read a second time.

The Disabled Persons Bill, which establishes a commission for considering matters concerning the treatment of disabled persons, was read the third time and passed.

The Belgrano: PM not vague over Haig

The Prime Minister said during Commons questions that no official interviews or assistance had been given to the authors of *The Sinking of the Belgrano* specifically in connection with their book, apart from providing comments on an article in *International Defence Review* by an Argentine military historian.

Mr Tam Dalyell (Linlithgow, Lab) had asked Mrs Thatcher to list official interviews and assistance given by civil servants and servicemen to the authors, Desmond Rice and Arthur Cavochan.

He then asked Mrs Thatcher: Is General Haig right in asserting that the Belgrano was sunk? Is Mrs Thatcher's admirer, General Haig, right?

Mrs Thatcher: I do not answer for General Haig.

£27m sales boost for whispering jet

By Michael Baily, Transport Editor

States, deregulation has brought a demand for frequent services which means smaller aircraft, and the environment lobby, which has grown enormously in strength, favours the ultra-quiet engines of the 146.

At the same time, third world air routes are developing to the densities that makes its 100-year configuration and £10m cost a viable proposition.

After a fruitless search for sales in the late 1970s, during which the future of the entire project, and many of the 4,400 at Hatfield, were thrown into doubt, orders have poured in.

They stand at more than 70 now and BAe are confident of beating by a big margin the target of 250 sales needed to break even in the 1980s and 1990s.

Short Brothers, the Belfast planemakers, have won another multimillion pound order from the United States, the company announced yesterday (the Press Association reports).

It has signed a deal worth £25m to supply eight of its '360' commuter airliners to Wright Airlines of Cleveland, Ohio.

When it was developed in the early 1970s, aircraft were getting steadily bigger, with Boeing's Jumbo and Lockheed's TriStar, and the 146 was widely considered too small to capture a substantial niche.

Since then the scene has changed radically. In the United



The Princess of Wales talking to BA staff at Heathrow yesterday.

BA chairman receives royal kiss

The Princess of Wales visited Heathrow airport yesterday and surprised onlookers by kissing Lord King, the British Airways chairman. The impulsive peck on the cheek came as he bowed in greeting when the Princess got out of her car. Lord King, aged 63, looked only momentarily surprised.

A British Airways official said later that Lord King and the Princess had known each other for some time. Lord King had often hunted with the Princess of Wales.

The Princess toured the airport in a coach which, under air traffic controllers' guidance, travelled along one of Heathrow's two main runways, sandwiched between two aircraft landings.

A BA spokesman said: "She was fitted into the pattern of traffic as if the coach was an aircraft. The only thing missing was that the coach was not given a code-name."

The airport security vehicle leading the coach was in radio contact with the airport control tower throughout the 15-minute journey. Sir Bill Oates, the senior airport operations manager, sitting next the Princess, also had a radio tuned to air traffic control frequency.



Howarth: NUM attempt to coerce

Plaid fights poll on pits issue

From Tim Jones, Aberdare

Launching its Cynon Valley by-election campaign yesterday, Plaid Cymru said that it was the only political party which unreservedly backed the miners in their dispute.

The party which has come second in parliamentary elections in Cynon Valley on five occasions, but came fourth in June last year, has decided to concentrate on the pits issue.

The by-election, on May 3, has been caused by the death of the Labour member, Mr Iain Evans.

The Plaid Cymru candidate, Mr Clayton Jones, aged 31 and a local man, has been ferrying South Wales miners in his buses to picket lines in the Midlands and Nottinghamshire.

He is also popular with the miners because of his allegations that the police have tapped his telephone in order to discover the picket's tactics.

General election June, 1983

Evans, I. (Lab)	20,688
Audun, P. (SDP)	7,594
Clayton, C. (Plaid)	4,844
Jarman, M. P. (C)	2,421
Lab majority	13,874

Council chamber gun siege man jailed

The man at the centre of a three-hour shotgun siege at the Caradon District Council offices in Liskeard, Cornwall, last July was jailed by Bodmin Crown Court yesterday.

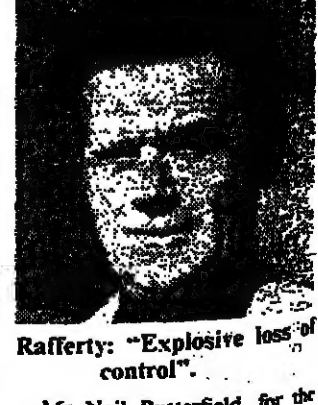
Mr Justice Fain sentenced Terence Rafferty, aged 54, of Lake View, Vitoria, Polbathick, to two years' imprisonment, 18 months of it suspended for five years. Rafferty pleaded guilty to falsely imprisoning Mr Jack Harcombe, a planning officer, and to six firearms charges.

His plea of not guilty to possessing a shotgun with intent to endanger life, and threatening to kill Mr Harcombe and others were accepted.

Mr Anthony Donne, for the prosecution, said that after a planning application by Rafferty had been rejected, he stormed out and returned with a shotgun. In the chamber were 29 councillors, six officials and a journalist.

Mr Donne said the Mayor displayed considerable courage by positioning himself between Rafferty and Mr Harcombe. Finally, Rafferty was persuaded to surrender the gun.

Rafferty later told the police: "I had no intention of shooting anyone. I only intended to frighten them."



Rafferty: "Explosive loss of control"

Mr Neil Butterfield, for the defence, said Rafferty was homeless, and bankrupt at the time of his 'explosive and massive loss of control', which he now bitterly regretted.

Last week Councillors lifted restrictions which prevented Rafferty and his wife from selling two houses at Polbathick.

The judge told Rafferty: "There are people who sought to make a hero of you. You, in your credit, have disappointed yourself from such people."

"I accept that when you went into the chamber you meant only to frighten."

Kirk's General Assembly to rule whether killer can train to be minister

From Ronald Faux, Edinburgh

The General Assembly of the Church of Scotland is to decide next month whether a man convicted of murder can train to become a minister in the church.

St Andrew's Presbytery, the church court that sponsored Mr James Nelson as a candidate, voted by 43 to 42 to withdraw its support at a meeting on Wednesday. Mr Nelson served a 10 year sentence for murdering his mother.

The issue will now go to the General Assembly of the Kirk, where it is feared the divisions could be reflected in the most serious split since the appointment of a Roman Catholic to the chair of theology at New College, the Kirk's training centre for ministers.

Mr Nelson, aged 39, had no comment to make yesterday because he felt it would become a decision for the General Assembly but much of the debate has centred on the alleged secret relating to Mr Nelson's background when he was adopted as a trainee minister in 1981.

The Rev John Patterson, Presbytery Clerk at St Andrew's, told the ministers and elders deciding the issue that

with hindsight he regretted that Mr Nelson's history had not been made known from the start.

Mr Nelson was released from prison in 1979. He went on to study for a divinity degree at St Andrew's University before being accepted as a probationary minister at Hope Park Church in St Andrew's.

There were 14 objections to his continued candidature from presbyteries and individual members of the church, including Mr Nelson's father.

A motion to discontinue Mr Nelson's "trial for licence" was tabled by Mr Norman Warrack, an elder of the Kirk, who described the issue as "a tragedy of errors" in which the real victim was Mr Nelson himself.

Professor James Whyte of St Mary's College, where Mr Nelson studied, lodged a formal protest. He also lodged his intention to complain to the General Assembly.

The assembly will now be asked to determine whether Mr Nelson will be taken on trial.

A statement from the Kirk said: "Professor Whyte has reserved his right to dissent and complained to the assembly and has 10 days to lodge his objection with the Presbytery Clerk."

"The effect of this will be that the Presbytery of St Andrew's will be at the Bar of the Assembly and its members will not be able to vote on the debate."

The spokesman added that the General Assembly had the power to decide one way or another whether Mr Nelson was taken on trial and that Mr Nelson himself had a right of appeal.

James Nelson: Support for him withdrawn.

James Nelson: Support for him withdrawn.

Plea for new subjects in higher education

By Colin Hughes

Universities, colleges and polytechnics must revolutionize their attitudes to traditional academic subjects if they are to meet the needs of the next century, a conference on higher education was told yesterday.

Central government would need to enforce change so that technological and "future" studies become an important part of the curriculum, Professor Ian Black, director of the Chelsea College Centre for Science and Education, told the symposium.

Technological studies were not a subject but a "meeting place" of disciplines, attempting to meet needs and satisfy customers, he told the conference held by the British Association for the Advancement of Science.

Students should work on

technological tasks, drawing on knowledge from more traditional fields such as science, craft, design, and economics to back up their skills.

With two thirds of teachers in training today having studied for single-subject degrees, academic subject divisions were bound to be reflected on the curriculum, Professor Black suggested, unless universities had to change first.

Education is inevitably a preparation for the future, yet the University Grants Committee, in opening the "great debate" on universities' prospects, had asked no questions about how universities would alter their degrees to meet the broader needs of society in 30 or 40 years.

Jameson to appeal in libel action

Mr Derek Jameson, the former Fleet Street editor, is to appeal against the failure of his High Court libel action, which left him facing a £75,000 costs bill.

Mr Jameson, aged 54, former editor of the *Daily Star*, *Daily Express* and *News of the World*, lost his action against the BBC in February. The jury found that a sketch about him in the Radio Four comedy series *Black and White* was defamatory, but that it was fair comment and not actuated by malice. Yesterday his solicitor, Mr Peter Carter-Ruck, confirmed that Mr Jameson, of Judd Street, St Pancras, London, would lodge an appeal soon.

It is understood that Mr Jameson's lawyers will argue in the Court of Appeal that the trial judge, Mr Justice Comyn, made errors of law in his conduct of the case and that no reasonable jury could have come to the conclusions reached by the jury if they had been properly directed by the judge.

Red tape on straw fire law reduced

The Home Office is to speed up moves to introduce quickly new strict rules to control the burning of straw in fields, after fears that red tape would prevent many local authorities using the regulations in time for this year's harvest.

Councils have only four weeks left in which to adopt the new model by-law. Normally it would take the Home Office weeks to confirm the changeover and at least four weeks have to pass after adoption before the new by-law can be enforced.

To allow as many local authorities as possible to accept the new law, the Home Office has agreed for the first time to notify councils by telephone of its approval so that the new regulations can be advertised and implemented while the paperwork is still being carried out.

"Local authorities will be working to a tight timetable to ensure that the by-laws are enforced for this year's straw burning season", the Home Office said.

Lucas sheds more jobs

From Craig Seton, Birmingham

Lucas Aerospace of Birmingham is to shed 310 jobs - about one third of the workforce - at its engine systems division.

The announcement yesterday was a second blow to Birmingham employment prospects. On Monday Lucas Electrical announced a £120m investment plan for its starter motor and alternator sector with a reduction of 700 jobs over five years.

The announcement yesterday

shed further rationalization was necessary because of declining demand, particularly in the civil aircraft market.

The company makes Rolls-Royce RB211 engine components. A spokesman said: "The whole aircraft market is much reduced and there is no prospect of a recovery, certainly not in the short term. When it comes it will be gradual and there will be fierce competition for whatever work is available."

Tracing the origins of sexual guilt

From Philip Howard, Cardiff

Cardiff yesterday Professor Keith Hopkins, of Brunel University traced the origins of sexual guilt in western culture.

It came about as Christianity developed from a radical sect of chosen believers into the universal religion of the established church.

The cardinal virtue celebrated in the New Testament was love, but the cardinal virtue adopted by the fathers of the church, after a century of theological and ideological argument, was chastity.

When Christianity was adopted as the state religion, the clergy obtained the political power to impose their new morality. And the new morality they chose was obsessed with sexual sin, which became a crime.

There was a vast and deliberate increase in guilt. There was an unprecedented

internalization of moral conscience, with immense consequences for western civilization. St Clement could write in all seriousness: "Laughter is the prelude to fornication". Mixed bathing in the Roman baths turned some Christian ascetics against ever washing again.

Another speaker argued that Christianity could, and should, have taken a different road in the theological struggles of its founding fathers.

The universal church adopted the moral standards of its radical ascetic wing. By doing so it retained control over it, but at a high cost.

By splitting virtue from happiness, and sexuality from reproduction, the guilt-ridden ascetic fanatics devalued all of them - the combination of sexuality and happiness in particular.

Football tickets for judge

Bristol City, the fourth division football club, upset by a judge's comments about the team's play, have invited him to watch a match.

At Bristol crown court, Judge Vowden, QC, sentencing a man who had received stolen property from City supporters, had said: "It's bad enough to have to go to watch Bristol City without having things stolen."

The club has replied by sending the judge tickets for the Crewe match on Tuesday.

In a letter to him, Mr Bob Twyford, the club secretary, said: "This will enable you to visit the scene together with a jury of 6,500 people and then pass judgment."

Pianist can keep £27,500 award

Elizabeth Woodhouse, the former BBC pianist who can no longer play the piano because of a hospital blunder, can keep the £27,500 damages awarded to her by a High Court judge.

The Court of Appeal dismissed an appeal by the Yorkshire Area Health Authority against the award which was made after Mrs Woodhouse, aged 55, of Brompton, near Scarborough, suffered nerve damage which resulted in deformities in her hands after being treated for an abdominal condition.

Ruling soon on brewery deal

A High Court ruling on the takeover battle for T. & R. Theakston, the North Yorkshire brewing company, will be given next week.

After three days of legal argument Mr Justice Harman reserved judgment on whether a deal made by Mr Paul Theakston, the company chairman, which would enable him to pass control of the company to the Lancashire brewers, Matthew Brown, complies with Theakston's articles of incorporation.

Rambler record

The Ramblers' Association has a record membership of more than 40,000, its annual report says today. The report welcomes the Government's decision to drop Ordnance Survey changes, which ramblers saw a threat to the quality of maps.

Church raid

St Mary and All Saints, Chesterfield's church with the crooked spire, has been robbed of a silver cross valued at £500. Derbyshire police fear it could be the start of another series of church raids in the county.



The bounds of Liberty: Scaffolding for repair work rises around the New York statue.

Big hoard of weapons in Sri Lanka claimed Tamil militants in south India are embarrassing Delhi

From Michael Hamlyn, Madras

A cooling breeze came off the Bay of Bengal. The Southern Cross hung low in the sky. We sat on the roof of Buhari's Beach Restaurant with mango juice and ginger chicken and talked of the armed struggle.

"It is only by the use of armed force that we shall be free", said a jolly bearded man, who wanted to be called Shankar. "There will come a time when the warring factions of the freedom movement will unite. We are uniting now. And we shall throw the Sinhalese Army out of Eelam."

Eelam is what the Tamil extremists call that area of Sri Lanka they wish to make an independent Tamil state. Its boundaries vary. Sometimes it is restricted to the northern and eastern provinces of Sri Lanka. But to Shankar and other leaders of the Eelam Research Organization (ERO), it also includes areas in the centre of the island around Badulla, where the plantation Tamils predominate.

"We have hundreds of weapons stored in Sri Lanka", Shankar said. How did they get there? Had they come via India? Well, how else can you get there? he laughed. Shankar and leaders of other militant young men plotting armed revolution - and, in some cases, carrying out attacks which have caused the build-up of tension in the island - have severely embarrassed the Indian Government.

Tamil Nadu (Tamil Land) in south India, where there are 40 million Tamils, all of whom feel a close kinship to the Tamils across the 25-mile stretch of water separating them from Sri Lanka, is sheltering at least 38,000 refugees from attacks by Sinhalese gangs nine months ago.

The state also shelters leading politicians of the Tamil United Liberation Front: Mr Appapillai Amirthalingam, the front's president, is given a penthouse in the state guest house here. Asylum is also provided for the leaders of extremist Tamil bands. Mr Velupillai

Naval blockade

Colombo (AP) - Sri Lanka has imposed a naval blockade along its maritime boundary with India to keep out illegal activity, officials said yesterday.

The Government has set up a "surveillance zone" in the Palk Strait, to crack down on the alleged smuggling of arms and men between southern India and the northern Jaffna district of Sri Lanka.

Prabhakaran, the 29 year old chief of the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam, better known as the Tamil Tigers, moves in and out of Madras and Madurai without apparent hindrance.

The People's Liberation Organization of Tamil Eelam is organized from rooms in the state hostel for members of the Legislative Assembly. Two representatives of the Tamil Eelam Army were arrested recently in Tamil Nadu, in possession of valuables alleged to be the proceeds of a bank robbery near Batticaloa in Sri Lanka. They were speedily released on bail.

But what has embarrassed the Government most has been the disclosure in a news magazine, *India Today*, that the young exiles are undergoing armed training in the wild and remote forests and wastelands around



Inside story of China's last dynasty

Peking (AFP) - The 77-year-old "brother of China's" last emperor is writing his memoirs about the last years of the Qing dynasty and the changes leading to the 1949 communist revolution.

Mr Pu Jie, who lives in Peking with his Japanese wife, has finished 100,000 words of the book, which is to be published with state approval next year. "Writing the memoirs is the sole desire of my remaining years," he was quoted as saying by the New Chinese news agency.

The agency described Mr Pu Jie as "the only person still living who knows the inside story of the Qing dynasty," which collapsed in 1911 when his brother, Pu Yi, then a teenager, was forced to abdicate. Pu Yi died in 1967.

Curfew eased in troubled north of the island

From Donovan Meldrich, Colombo

A Ministry of State spokesman said yesterday that the number of rebels and suspected rebels shot by the armed services in the northern province of Sri Lanka in the three days up to noon was between 25 and 30.

The spokesman described as speculative and false the figure of 57 deaths published in some newspapers.

The official said there had been a great improvement in the situation in the north and the earlier 18-hour curfew was being reduced to 14 hours. He denied that there was a third attack on a buddhist temple in Jaffna which had caused the rumours of the death toll being 57.

Rebels had, however, thrown a bomb at the residence of the government agent and attempted to set fire to some vehicles at an administrative complex.

Solidarity leaders urge all Poles to boycott elections

From Roger Boyes, Warsaw

The fugitive leadership of the banned Solidarity union has called for anti-Government protests next month and has urged all Poles to boycott local council elections in June.

A communiqué issued by the four leaders of the underground opposition said recent tradition of protesting on May Day, the workers' holiday, and on May 3, the anniversary of the liberal 1791 constitution, should be maintained.

"For the past few years society has revived the tradition of staging demonstrations on May Day and Organizing independent celebrations and declining to take part in official celebrations arranged by the authorities." Last May Day there were demonstrations in 20 Polish cities and on May 1, 1982, the first after martial law, hundreds of thousands of Solidarity sympathizers came on to the streets, taking the authorities by surprise.

The call to protest is more muted than last year, perhaps because there has been such a poor response to demonstration appeals over the past 10 months. Those most likely to demonstrate for Solidarity will be students and schoolchildren rather than workers who are under relatively tight control in their factories.

The May Day and May 3 appeal was accompanied by a separate statement condemning local council elections due on June 17. These polls, said the underground leaders, should be boycotted.

The elections "create for world opinion the appearance of a social mandate for the authorities. For internal use they are a tool for subjugating society, breaking down its dignity and sovereignty." A concerted national boycott would "show that the most immediate need for the country is for authorities who have the confidence of the people, expressed in the form of a free election."

The statement was signed by Mr Zbigniew Bujak, leader of the Warsaw Solidarity branch.



Mr Bogdan Lis, underground chief in Gdansk.

Mr Bogdan Lis, the Gdansk leader, Mr Tadeusz Jedynak, of Katowice, and Mr Edward Szumieko, of Wroclaw, that suggests that the main protests will be in those four regions.

The normal practice after such an appeal is that the regional underground centres issue detailed instructions to local supporters by means of leaflets distributed in schools, universities and factories. Last week some leaflets, mainly calling for an election boycott, were dropped from the rooftops along Marszałkowska Street, Warsaw's main shopping thoroughfare.

Official concern about opposition activity in the universities was expressed yesterday by the Communist Party daily *Trybuna Ludu*. Under the Polish higher education law, universities are allowed, with certain qualifications, to elect their own governing bodies. In supplementary elections recently, Mr Janusz Onysiewicz, a former spokesman for Solidarity and a lecturer in mathematics, was elected to the senate.

This has caused some anguish in the Government and the Education Ministry has already sent a memorandum to the university pointing out that the elections "violated the law" and could not be considered valid.

Bank plot blamed on laxity in Canberra

From Tony Duboudin, Melbourne

Mr John Bjelke-Peterson, the Queensland Premier, has blamed the federal Government after a bizarre extortion threat to blow up the managers and their families of Australia's fourth largest banks unless the banks pay \$A2m (about £1.3m).

The demand was made in letters to the banks and threatened to blow up the homes of the Queensland managers of the Australian and New Zealand Banking Corporation, Westpac, and the National Australia and Commonwealth banks unless each paid \$A500,000.

Queensland police now believe that threats of violence could be made elsewhere in Australia, and security at banks has been increased nationally.

The extortion threats were made public late on Wednesday by Mr Bjelke-Peterson, after the letters had been received on

Monday. The Premier immediately turned the threat into a political issue by blaming Canberra.

"The federal police in Canberra under Mr Hawke have made Australia the home of terrorist groups," he said. "They have allowed the PLO, the IRA and Swapo people to set up headquarters in Australia. They have got offices here and all the facilities to operate."

"That is another feather in Mr Hawke's cap. I say it is disgusting and disgraceful and I will continue to say that. I am not saying these terrorists are involved here."

The bank threat is the second extortion demand involving Queensland this year. In January the Premier's office introduced a letter threatening to release foot-and-mouth disease to Australia unless certain reforms were carried out in the Queensland prison system.

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Lebanon summit delayed as pressure mounts for Syrian intervention

From Robert Fisk, Damascus

President Assad of Syria and President Gemayel of Lebanon yesterday postponed their summit in Damascus as Lebanese opposition leaders tried to put pressure on both governments by suggesting the Syrian Army should enter Beirut as a "deterrent force" to stamp out the civil war as it did in 1976.

Mr Walid Jumblatt, the Druze leader who can regularly be found these days in the bar of the Sheraton Hotel in Damascus, is voicing increasing pessimism about the endlessly proposed ceasefire in Beirut and said yesterday that the Syrians should again intervene militarily, knowing full well that - at present at least - this is the last thing the Syrians wish.

Neither President Assad nor President Gemayel sees any point in going through the pomp and circumstance of a second summit in Damascus unless it can be used to consecrate a genuine and lasting truce in Beirut that will preclude both political reforms and governmental stability in Lebanon.

Nevertheless as a threat to their Christian opponents as much as to the Syrians themselves, the Muslim opposition in the city is showing ever more public enthusiasm for the reentry of Syrian troops.

In the Lebanese capital yesterday Shaikh Hassan Khaled, the Grand Mufti, said he would "welcome the entry of Syrian deterrent forces to Beirut to disengage the combatants".

adding artfully that this could take place only if all parties concerned agreed.

Syria sent its army into Lebanon in 1976 as an "Arab deterrent force" after an appeal from President Suleiman Frangieh and later secured an Arab League mandate to control Beirut in the company of small contingents of Saudi, Sudanese and North Yemeni troops.

Although the mandate has not been renewed for more than two years, the Syrians still refer to their army in Lebanon as the Arab deterrent force and the name still appears on rusting signs at checkpoints in the north and east of the country.

The Syrians, however, know full well that to order their armour back down the mountains to Beirut, whence they were evicted by the Israelis two years ago, would risk both Christian Maronite opposition and quite probably hostile intervention by the Israeli Air Force.

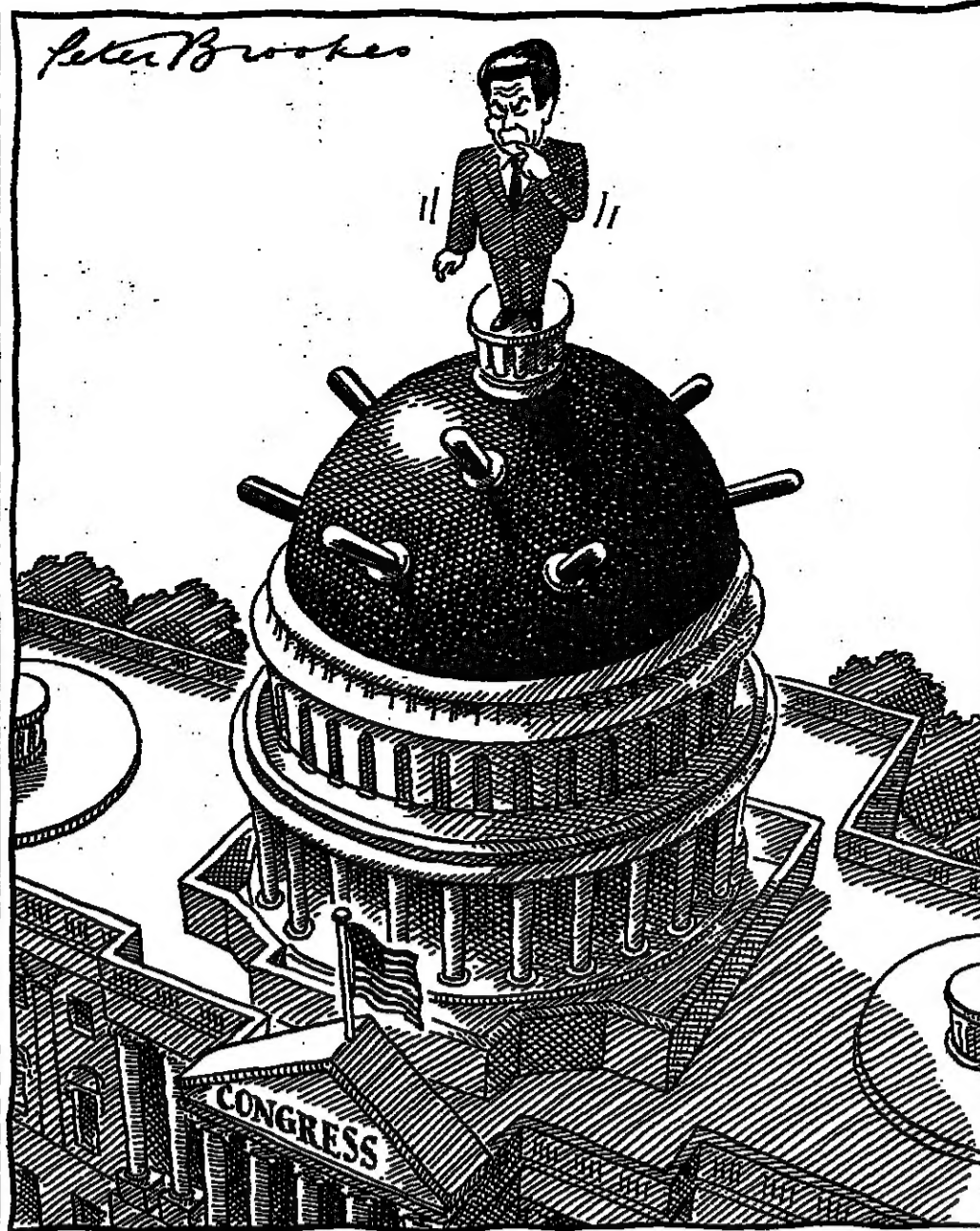
The whole burden of Syrian policy since the failed reconciliation conference at Lausanne last month had been to persuade the parties in Lebanon that neither side is now in a position to "win" the civil war; and that they must therefore reach mutual agreement on a new government, albeit one that favours Syria's own "pan-Arab" and anti-Israeli ambitions. If Syria is again to use its Army in the Lebanese capital, the time has not yet arrived.

Jumblatt is evidently trying to frighten President Gemayel's own embattled administration, announcing that he believes the fighting in Beirut will go on for "years and years" and condemning the Lebanese authorities for allegedly sending an emissary to Washington to negotiate an \$80m (£54m) arms deal with the Americans.

However, Mr Jumblatt's putative Lebanese ally, Mr Nabih Berri of the Shia Muslim Amal militia, has pointedly made no demand for Syrian military assistance in Beirut and is, unlike Mr Jumblatt, spending much of his time trying to disengage his guerrillas from the Beirut front line and to find some *modus vivendi* with both the Lebanese government and the Phalangists.

As the Druze rely almost entirely upon Syria for artillery and ammunition, an agreement between President Gemayel and President Assad will, in Lebanese eyes, change the mood of the Druze leader and possibly control his tongue as well as his militia. Mr Gemayel and Mr Berri, whose forces are far larger than those of Mr Jumblatt, are the two men Syria wishes to influence, not to mention the Phalangist forces whom Syria still suspects President Gemayel can command.

Since the Syrian Army was driven out of east Beirut by the Phalangists in 1978, this only provided a further reason why President Assad should not wish to commit his soldiers to a further adventure in Lebanon.



Curbing the intelligence agencies

15 senators monitor US spies

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington

The Senate select committee on intelligence, whose 15 members are so aggrieved by the administration's failure to inform them about the CIA role in mining Nicaraguan waters, was set up in May 1976 on the recommendation of the Church committee.

Chaired by the late Senator Frank Church, it was established to look into abuses by the US intelligence community, many of which had found their way into the press after the Watergate scandal.

The Church committee found that the intelligence agencies were not properly accountable to Congress because jurisdiction over their activities lay with four separate congressional bodies.

One of the committee's main recommendations was to consolidate responsibility for all intelligence matters in the hands of a new Senate select committee on intelligence. This, it said, makes recommendations and proposes legislation on intelligence activities and policies.

It oversees the CIA, the National Security Agency, Defence Intelligence Agency and other intelligence activities of the US Government to ensure conformity with the American constitution and laws and it authorizes budgets for the intelligence community.

The House permanent select committee on intelligence performs a similar function in the House of Representatives.

Because it is dealing with the nation's secrets, most of its meetings are behind closed doors. The influence of Congressional committees is to a large extent determined by the people who head them. As presently constituted, the Senate intelligence committee is particularly muscular. Its chairman is Senator Barry Goldwater (Republican, Arizona), a former Presidential candidate and a man who normally has the ear of President Reagan.

Its vice-chairman is Senator Daniel Moynihan (Democrat, New York) one of the most prominent members of the Democratic Party whose counsel is widely respected by Republicans as well as by the White House.

For a city as leak-prone as Washington, the Senate intelligence committee has built up a remarkable record for keeping its mouth shut. (The original leaks about the mining operations came from the House committee.)

And it was the leaking of the text of Senator Goldwater's letter to Mr William Casey, the CIA Director, which revealed just how annoyed the committee was about not being told exactly what the CIA was up to in Nicaragua. This was the Senate's way of showing that it is not prepared for this or any other Administration to undermine its jurisdiction over the American intelligence community.

Uproar over mining may hit aid to Salvador

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington

The uproar caused by the clandestine US role in mining Nicaragua's harbours is now threatening to thwart the Reagan Administration's efforts to increase military assistance to El Salvador in its fight against left-wing guerrillas.

An angry Congress seems certain not only to block President Reagan's request for \$21m (£15m) for covert aid to anti-Sandinist rebels in Nicaragua, but also in withholding approval of \$62m in emergency aid to El Salvador - at least until after Congress's Easter recess.

Frantic attempts by Administration officials, including private assurances that the laying of mines had ceased last weekend, to save Congress's hurt feelings at not being informed about the mining operation have not succeeded in stemming the revolt in both the Senate and the House.

Late on Wednesday the House foreign affairs committee voted 32-3 with two abstentions to approve a non-binding resolution opposing the use of Government funds for mining Nicaraguan waters. The resolution was the same as that overwhelmingly passed by the Republican-controlled Senate the previous day. The full House was expected to approve the measure late yesterday.

The House intelligence committee was also voted to delete all funds for supporting Nicaraguan rebels, known as contras, from the fiscal 1985 intelligence authorization was the Senate foreign relations committee's decision to exclude El Salvador from the \$11.100m foreign aid bill. None of the \$137.5m aid for the whole of Central America asked for by the Administration was approved.

This was a deliberate snub by the committee which had earlier approved the Administration's request for aid to El Salvador and Nicaraguan rebels before the CIA operations had become known.

The White House has been stunned by the anger which has erupted on Capitol Hill and the Administration's failure fully to inform Congress of what was happening.

The Administration's two immediate concerns now are: Will the US be able to continue to support the contras if the House blocks the \$21m aid request and how can the US continue to help El Salvador if the House also decides to turn the aid tap off?

● **TEGUCIGALPA:** American-backed rebels fighting the Sandinista Army from Honduras have denied any direct US involvement in the mining of Nicaraguan ports (Alan Tomlinson writes).

Señor Adolfo Calero, leader of the largest rebel group, the Nicaraguan Democratic Force, said the mines had been placed by his own men and not by a special command unit closely run by the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) as reported in Washington, where intelligence officials have been quoted as saying the operation is directly supervised by CIA agents on a ship just outside Nicaraguan territorial waters.

Rebel leaders were reluctant to go into details of the operation.

Tanzanian Premier killed in crash

Dar es Salaam (Reuters) - Mr Edward Sokoine, the Tanzanian Prime Minister, was killed in a road accident yesterday near Dodoma, Tanzania's future capital. He was 46.

Mr Sokoine, who took over as Prime Minister last year after having once resigned the post in 1980 due to ill health, was widely expected to be the main contender to succeed President Julius Nyerere.

President Nyerere has hinted strongly in recent years that he will retire and the most recent indications are that he plans to do so next year.

Born in the Arusha region of Northern Tanzania close to the Kenyan border, Mr Sokoine was a member of the Massi tribe, a powerful group of warriors before colonialization. He was educated in Tanzanian schools.

Maize relief for southern Africa

Johannesburg (Reuters) - South African plans to import a record 5.5 million tonnes of maize this year to make up for a shortfall caused by drought.

Much is destined for Zimbabwe and Zambia, and probably also Zaire, Lesotho, Botswana and Swaziland.

University riot

Seoul (Reuters) - The Sogang University in South Korea has suspended classes for three days after more than 2,000 students rioted at three universities during anti-government demonstrations. About 30 students and police were hurt.

Frontier battle

Peking (AP) - China claimed yesterday that its frontier forces killed or wounded "large numbers" of Vietnamese troops and wrecked hundreds of their military installations in heavy shelling. It was retaliation for "persistent Vietnamese provocations and harassment".

Police pounce

Rome (AP) - Italian police have arrested four left-wing terrorists suspects on charges of robbery, extortion, kidnapping and membership of the extremist left-wing terror group, the Armed Revolutionary Proletariat.

Still talking

Peking (Reuters) - The latest round of Sino-British talks on Hongkong's future ended yesterday with the routine official statement from the British Embassy that they were useful and constructive.

Costly ride

New York (AP) - A man who posed as a taxi driver, once charging a Japanese visitor \$500 for a \$25 trip into Manhattan from Kennedy Airport, has been sentenced to up to nine years in jail for grand larceny, bribery, and unlawful imprisonment.

Runway open

Frankfurt (Reuters) - Frankfurt Airport's controversial third runway was inaugurated amid tight security to prevent violence from demonstrators.

Mubarak seizes opposition newspaper

From Our Correspondent Cairo

An edition of the *Al Wafd* weekly opposition newspaper was seized by the Egyptian Government yesterday, the first such action since President Mubarak took office in 1981.

The newspaper is the organ of the right-wing New Wafd Party. A spokesman said the issues had been confiscated "apparently because it published a news item about the Jihad Organization".

The Government blames Jihad, a fundamentalist Muslim group, for the murder of President Sadat and a subsequent attempt to overthrow the regime and set up a Muslim fundamentalist state.

Yesterday's impounded issue of *Al Wafd* reported that arms and documents taken from some 300 Jihad members now on trial had been stolen from a safe in a room adjoining the court-room. At heavily guarded premises in a Cairo suburb not far from where Sadat was shot.

There has been no report of such a theft in the semi-official press. An Interior Ministry spokesman declined to comment.

The Wafd spokesman said the newspaper confiscation was ordered by the Ministry of the Interior and went to court yesterday for a ruling on the legitimacy of the impoundment.

The reports on the theft said: "An organized group must have prepared for it for a long time." It said an examination revealed that neither the safe nor the door to the office had been forced. The newspaper also said the prosecution had clamped down on the investigation.

Turk extradited over attempt on Pope's life

Rome (Reuters) - A Turk wanted by Italian magistrates investigating the attempted assassination of the Pope in 1981 was extradited from West Germany yesterday, judicial sources said. Mr Omer Mersan was taken directly to a Rome jail for questioning.

He is suspected of having supplied Mehmet Ali Agca with a false passport shortly before he shot the Pope.

A former Bulgarian airline official, Mr Sergei Antonov, is being held on suspicion of plotting with Agca. He and the Bulgarian Government have denied any involvement.

Beirut's UN appeal on Israeli role

Beirut (Reuters) - As part of a stepped-up diplomatic offensive against the Israeli occupation of southern Lebanon, the Lebanese Government has decided to protest to the UN Security Council about Israel's latest measures isolating the region from the rest of the country.

President Gemayel and the Foreign Minister, Mr Elie Salem, also decided last night to back a recommendation by the UN Secretary-General, Señor Javier Perez de Cuellar that the role of UN troops in southern Lebanon should eventually be expanded to include helping the Government gain control over the area.

Mr Salem said the diplomatic initiative was "an important turning point in Lebanon's efforts to liberate the south and restore national sovereignty over the region".

In a related development Mr Gemayel yesterday had a second meeting in 24 hours with the US Ambassador, Mr Reginald Bartholomew. Washington is Israel's principal ally and Lebanese sources said southern Lebanon was dis-

cussed at both meetings. Israel's almost total isolation of occupied southern Lebanon for the past two weeks has caused alarm in Lebanon about its possible intention to annex the region.

However, a senior Israeli official in Jerusalem yesterday said that Israel had no intention of cutting southern Lebanon off from the rest of the country permanently.

Israeli troops have cut the last road link there for all but two days since March 29, allowing through only a trickle of vehicles. Telephone and telex links are also cut.

The Lebanese Government's diplomatic offensive, which came during a relative lull in the fighting in Beirut yesterday, follows its abrogation last month of a US-mediated accord with Israel on the withdrawal of Israeli troops. The May 1983 pact was rejected by Lebanese Muslims and Syria because it envisaged a continued Israeli security presence in the south and limited Lebanese security forces on the area.

American women see their careers take off

From Christopher Thomas, Washington

The proportion of women in executive, managerial and administrative occupations in the United States has leapt in 10 years across a range of professions. There have been notable increases in the percentage of women in law, accounting, personnel management, medicine, teaching, science and acting.

Overall the proportion of women in these and other careers increased from 18.5 per cent in 1970 to 30.5 per cent in 1980, according to figures issued by the Census Bureau.

In accounting and auditing the proportion of women is now 38 per cent, an increase of 13 per cent. The percentage of women financial managers rose from 19.4 to 31.4. In personnel and labour relations careers, the new figure is 36 per cent, compared with 21 per cent 10 years earlier.

Even with the increases, the proportion in most categories is still lower than the overall proportion of women in the American labour force, 42.6 per cent. Suzanne Bianchi, a co-author of the Census Bureau's report, said that women's increased entry into more highly paid managerial and professional occupations in part follows improvements in their educational qualifications.

Women's pay, however,

continues to lag behind men's. Overall, American women working full-time earn 62 per cent of what men earn, according to Labour Department figures for 1982.

According to the Census Bureau report, one reason for earnings disparities is better jobs is that women tend to work fewer hours than men. Also many women in highly paid jobs are beginners who earn less than males with more experience.

The report showed that the proportion of women public administrators and officials rose between 1970 and 1980 from 21.7 to 33.6 per cent. The percentage of women judges and lawyers rose from 5 to 14. The proportion of women architects more than doubled to 8.3 per cent.

Among writers, artists, entertainers and actors, women made up 42.1 per cent in 1980 compared with 32.5 per cent ten years earlier. Among editors and writers, the proportion rose from 42 to 49.3 per cent.

Despite the increases, several other US studies have shown that when a company hires young men and women of equal education and experience, it often places the women in jobs with less potential for promotion.

Challenger celebrates its success

From Trevor Fishlock, New York

The five members of the "Ace Satellite Repair Company" were jubilant yesterday after the success of their retrieval and repair mission 300 miles above the Earth. The satellite Solar Max was re-installed in orbit, pointing directly at the Sun and resumed the studies that were interrupted when it broke down three years ago. With its new components, Solar Max could continue working until 1991.

Mission control in Houston reported that the satellite was working well and the astronauts were preparing to bring the shuttle Challenger back to Earth. If the weather remains good, it will land at its base at Cape Canaveral, Florida, at 7.07am local time today (11.07pm BST).

Solar Max was placed in orbit by the Challenger's robot arm. With everything working well, Captain Robert Crippen and his team donned jerseys bearing the words "Ace Satellite Repair Company" grouped themselves in front of a television camera.

Captain Crippen, making his third shuttle flight, said: "We are all feeling very good right now." His sense of relief and triumph was echoed at mission control.

Challenger's task on this, the eleventh shuttle flight, was to prove its ability to carry out repairs and maintenance, an important step on the way to building a space station.

Mayors die in Philippine election violence

From Keith Dalton, Manila

With one month to go before the Philippines first general election since martial law was lifted in 1981, the campaigning has already turned violent with at least 10 election-related deaths reported in the past fortnight.

The victims include a mayor and a deputy mayor who were both murdered "execution-style".

Moments after addressing 500 opposition supporters on Wednesday night in Sipocot town in Camarines Sur, the deputy mayor Mr Rosita Yllafuerte, was shot at point-blank range in the back of the head beneath the outdoor stage.

Gunfire killed another two men nearby and badly injured two dancers on stage. One of the young dancers died yesterday in hospital. While military authorities blame communist rebels for the attack, local officials believe hired gunmen were responsible.

A pro-government candidate was killed on Sunday in the southern province of Surigao del Sur. Mr Recaredo Castillo, the 73-year-old mayor of Bislig, was killed by a bullet in the head.

The gunman, with two lookouts, escaped on a motor cycle, police said.

● **Accused priests:** The Deputy Justice Minister, Mr Jesus Borromeo, yesterday told lawyers of three Roman Catholic priests - including an Australian and an Irish missionary - that he needs more evidence before he will decide whether to drop multiple murder charges against them and six church leaders.

All nine have pleaded not guilty to charges that they plotted the murder of a town mayor and four of his aides.

Nigeria purges civil servants

Lagos (AFP) - The Nigerian Federal Civil Service Commission has announced the immediate compulsory retirement or dismissal of 3,000 civil servants of various grades as part of a continuing purge by the military administration.

The campaign in six establishments is directed against "undesirable, partisan and unproductive" public officials. The Communications Ministry will lose most staff.

Howe flies to Peking today

By Henry Stanhope, Diplomatic Correspondent

Sir Geoffrey Howe flies to China tomorrow for high-level talks on the future of Hongkong, with five months to go before the deadline for an agreement fixed by the Peking government.

But British Government sources said last night that a lot of hard work remained to be done and no decisive outcome should be expected. It was being seen more as a useful opportunity for a comprehensive review of the Anglo-Chinese negotiations which opened in September, 1982.

The sources said that the atmosphere was good and progress had been made. With \$1,178m worth of trade between Britain and Hongkong last year, the Government had a clear interest in ensuring that the prosperity and stability of the colony survived the expiry of Britain's lease in 1997.

Other international issues, including East-West relations and the Middle East, will also be covered in Sir Geoffrey's talks with Mr Wu Xueqian, the Chinese Foreign Minister.

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24-hour kidnap drama

Super stallion lost and found

From Diana Goides, Paris

A kidnapped thoroughbred stallion Hadol du Vivier was found yesterday only a few miles from the stud farm near Rouvray where it was stolen on Wednesday night.

The kidnappers had demanded a 2m franc (£174,000) ransom from the owner, Mme Henri Lévesque.

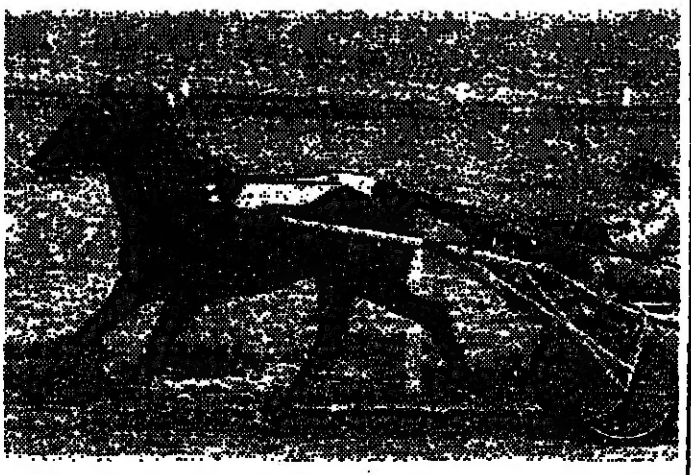
Renowned in his day as the best trotter of all time, winning 23 of the 24 races for which he was entered in his first two seasons, Hadol du Vivier, now

aged 11, had been put out to stud for the past four years. The well-known Cheffreville-Tonnacourt stud farm, owned by Mme Lévesque, confirmed yesterday that the stallion had been taken from his stable some time between 9pm on Wednesday and 1am yesterday. The kidnappers had threatened to kill the horse unless 2m francs were handed over.

The best known horse kidnapping was that of the flat-racing champion Shergar, who

was seized from a stud farm in Ireland in February, 1983. After a year of waiting, hoax ransom demands, and worldwide investigations, the stallion was finally given up for dead in February, and the insurance company agreed to pay more than £7m to the syndicate that owned him, which included the Aga Khan.

● **Distinguished record:** As a three- and four-year-old Hadol du Vivier won no less than 18 consecutive races (our Racing Correspondent writes).



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South Africa credits its cross-border raids with paving way to peace

From Michael Hornsby, Johannesburg

South Africa's "forceful military action" over the past decade, including cross-border raids against Namibian nationalist guerrilla bases in Angola, created the climate in which the current peace initiatives in the Southern African region became possible, the Pretoria Government has claimed in a defence White Paper.

The paper, on defence and armaments supply for 1984, was tabled in Parliament on Wednesday by General Magnus Malan, the Minister of Defence. It indicates no slackening in South Africa's military effort, despite the better hopes for peace, but furnishes figures showing that, although defence spending has increased sharply in recent years, it has also declined in real terms.

The White Paper argues that South Africa's pursuit of "a successful strategy of deterrence" has allowed (black) African states "to experience the dangers of Russian involvement in their countries, as well as the suffering and retrogression that follows upon the revolutionary formula."

Over the past decade many of South Africa's neighbours have "come to their senses and have had their eyes opened to the dangers of Russian imperialism," the paper states. As a result, it will be "possible to

Escapers held

Seven members of the African National Congress were arrested after a shoot-out with police in Mbabane, the Swaziland capital. They belonged to a group of 15 who escaped from police custody last weekend.

The shoot-out, indicates the pressure which the guerrilla movement is under as a result of security pacts South Africa has signed with Mozambique and Swaziland.

conduct future negotiations in a calm and relaxed atmosphere, thereby gaining more time in which the negotiating process can develop, until lasting peace and prosperity is attained in the entire sub-continent."

The "decisive factors" in meeting the short-term military threat to South Africa, the paper says, are continued pressure against the South-West African People's Organization (Swapo) guerrillas in Namibia and their African National Congress (ANC) counterparts in South Africa, the goodwill and support of the "broad (South African) population" and the preparedness of the Defence Force.

Over the long term, the paper maintains, the scale of the conventional military threat to South Africa posed by sur-

rounding black states would be determined primarily by the extent to which the Soviet Union and "international organizations" were prepared to become involved, as well as the readiness of neighbouring states to serve as bases for "destabilization and terrorism".

The paper denounces the United Nations and the Organization of African Unity as the most important "worldwide and regional organizations" which, it claims, "lend themselves to furthering (Russian) objectives in Southern Africa by joining the propaganda onslaught against the Republic of South Africa". It says that certain church leaders in South Africa are also part of this onslaught.

The paper identifies new airfields and stepped-up naval shipbuilding as two priority areas and, in the light of the world embargo on arms supplies to South Africa, expresses concern that "some of the most reliable main armaments" are now obsolete.

The paper declares that South Africa will have to concentrate on the local development, production and commission of a new generation of main armaments to meet the threat of the Soviet stockpile in certain neighbouring countries and "to maintain the existing balance of power".



Beside the point: Rudolph Nureyev arriving in Munich where he is taking part in an international ballet festival.

Revenge of the Samurai

Nairobi (AP) - A Kenyan, aged 35, who had a hand cut off by a Briton wielding a Samurai sword, was sentenced yesterday to two years' imprisonment and one stroke of a cane for housebreaking.

Andrew Nduini Kamere, who pleaded guilty, was arrested at a mission hospital near Mount Kenya, when staff became

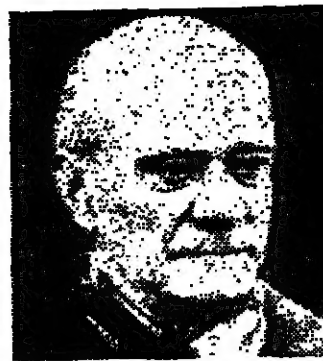
suspicious after reading a newspaper account of the attempted break-in.

Mr Claude Robertson-Dunn, aged 62, had struck out in the dark with the sword, a souvenir from war service in Burma, when at least two intruders tried to force their way into his home. He was not aware that he had injured anyone.

Chernenko behind editor's removal

Tikhonov lip service to détente

From Richard Owen, Moscow



Mr Tikhonov: Offered no arms concessions

Mr Nikolai Tikhonov, newly confirmed as the Soviet Prime Minister, yesterday called for a "change for the better in the international situation" but offered no hope that the Chernenko administration might make arms concessions to reactivate détente, one of President Chernenko's declared aims.

Mr Tikhonov, aged 78, was speaking on the second and final day of the Supreme Soviet or parliament. He presented an unchanged list of ministers, confirming that the new leadership favours conservatism and the status quo rather than the personnel changes that marked the Andropov era.

The list of three Deputy Prime Ministers was headed by Mr Geidar Aliyev, aged 60, widely seen as one of the most able men in the Politburo despite the handicap of his Azerbaijani origin. The other two deputy premiers are Mr Andrei Gromyko and Mr Ivan Arkhipov, both in their seventies. Mr Gromyko remains at the Foreign Ministry, and Marshal Ustinov stays as Defence Minister.

On the opening day of the session on Wednesday Mr Chernenko, the party leader, was elected President. He was nominated by Mr Mikhail Gorbachev, aged 53, who is increasingly seen as the country's next leader.

Mr Tikhonov said yesterday that Soviet defence measures were only a "natural reply to the recklessness of militarist circles

editorship, to which he was appointed by Mr Andropov. Sources said Mr Chernenko had also met Mr Nikolai Shcholkov, the disgraced former Interior Minister, but was unable to offer him a post since he had been expelled from the Central Committee under Mr Andropov. Some of Mr Shcholkov's privileges have been restored.

The Supreme Soviet yesterday approved a new law on school reform introduced by Mr Aliyev. The reform, sponsored by Mr Chernenko in the Politburo, emphasizes vocational training and industrial experience and provides for children to begin school at six instead of seven.

Mr Aliyev said the reform would radically improve the outmoded Soviet educational system and train Russians for life in the twenty-first century. The new law also emphasizes ideological indoctrination.

● MADRID: Plans for an official visit to the Soviet Union by King Juan Carlos and Queen Sophia went ahead here yesterday after Mr Chernenko was elected President, according to reliable sources in Madrid. (Harry Debelius writes).

The visit, which was delayed recently, apparently because there was no Soviet head of state to receive the King and Queen, will be the first by a Spanish head of state, and may take place as early as next month. The trip was first discussed six years ago.

Chile bishops seek democracy timetable

From Florencia Varas, Santiago

Chilean bishops have issued a declaration calling for an end to violence and asking the Government to establish a timetable for a return to democracy. It is the first time that the Roman Catholic Church has asked the Government for such a timetable.

The appeal comes at a time when President Pinochet's regime has resumed its hard line toward the left wing opposition, with the expulsion to Brazil of two Communist leaders and renewed censorship of five opposition magazines.

Señor Juan Pablo Cardenas, editor of the centre-left magazine *Análisis*, was arrested in his office on Tuesday as he was composing a letter of protest at the regime of the latest edition of his twice-monthly publication.

The current issue, which appeared on the streets this week, publishes the results of an opinion poll in which the majority of Chileans called for President Pinochet's resignation. According to the poll, 75.4 per cent of the public wanted General Pinochet to step down before the end of his presidential term in 1989 and 57.7 per cent wanted him to leave office immediately. The poll said only 36.3 per cent of the population wanted him to remain in power.

Last week's Cabinet reshuffle, which signalled the end of rigid monetarist policies, has won the backing of local businessmen and suggests that the government is trying to gain middle class support through populist policies while stepping up its repression of the Marxist left.

The decision to change national economic policy was apparently taken by General Pinochet as he toured Santiago by helicopter on the night of

March 27 and saw, for the first time, burning barricades and street demonstrations.

The new Cabinet, headed by Señor Sergio Onofre Jarpa, will attempt to regain the support of the commercial, industrial and transport interests through domestic policies determined to bring about economic revival and create new jobs.

Attempts will be made to revise Chile's International Monetary Fund obligations by modifying strict conditions on state spending and interest payments. Señor Luis Escobar Cerda, the new Finance Minister, is at the moment in Washington having discussions with the International Monetary Fund on Chile's debts.

By abandoning the economic policies to which he attributes his growing unpopularity, General Pinochet has once again shown his political skill. Meanwhile, the non-Marxist opposition represented in the Alianza Democrática coalition, which includes both right-wing and Socialist parties, has not been able to capitalize on the success of its last day of protest.

The Alianza's proposed plans for government were to have been made public, but strong differences of opinion within the coalition have prevented this. There is political infighting within the Alianza, between those who still advocate an attempt at dialogue and those who demand a total break with the Government.

The leftist parties represented in the Movimiento Democrático Popular, which includes Communists, Marxist Socialists and the Revolutionary Left Movement, have called for a complete break with the military government and advocate all forms of struggle against it, including armed resistance.

Too much milk and too few babies

From Ian Murray, Strasbourg

The EEC has too much milk and too few babies, the European Parliament heard yesterday. By the end of the year it will have 1 million unwanted tonnes of butter. By the end of the century, unless people can be encouraged to make love for Europe, the native European will be an aging, endangered species.

The milk delivery news was given by Mr Paul Dalsager, the Agriculture Commissioner. Despite the recent agreement to put a limit on milk production, he said, the beef mountain would add to difficulties and a restrictive price policy would be obligatory.

The baby news came in a curt report from two Christian Democrats, Mr Lambert Cruz of Belgium and Signor Paolo Sarbi of Italy. By the year 2000, it said, Europeans would have dropped in number to only 4.5 per cent of the world's population, compared with 8.8 per cent 30 years ago.

Mr Dalsager suggested that in future the typical farming family could not expect to live exclusively by agriculture. A pricing policy to "guide production in the way which common sense dictates" would mean that alternative jobs would have to be created outside farming to supplement incomes.

The Christian Democrats suggested that the typical family unit could only be expected to grow if there were social security inducements.

Print strike hits papers in Germany

From Our Correspondent, Bonn

West-German newspaper and magazine printers yesterday opened a trade union campaign for a 35-hour working week by launching 24-hour strikes at 30 plants around the country.

The affected plants included six in Hamburg area and another six in and around Frankfurt. None of the five daily newspapers published in Frankfurt was expected to appear today, nor the international edition of *Financial Times*.

The strikes were called by the printers' trade union, IG Druck und Papier, after a breakdown of talks about pay and a 35-hour week without wage penalties. The union yesterday described the selective strikes as a "form of flexible industrial action".

The union also called on journalists of the affected newspapers to show solidarity with the printers by staging similar "warning" strikes. The German journalists' trade union passed on the call to its members.

The print employers' association in Wiesbaden, yesterday took a relaxed view of the strikes. "We are not at present planning countermeasures, and especially no lockouts," a spokesman said.

Widespread strikes in the metal industry are also expected if the powerful metalworkers' trade union IG Metall and employers are not able to reach agreement.



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House of Lords

No garnishee order
against bank
account of Embassy

Alcom Ltd v Republic of Colombia
Before Lord Diplock, Lord Fraser of Tullybelton, Lord Keith of Kinkaid, Lord Roskill and Lord Templeman
[Speeches delivered April 12]

A judgment creditor seeking to satisfy a judgment for money obtained against a foreign state could not use garnishee proceedings to freeze that state's London bank account unless the creditor could show that the balance in that account was solely to meet liabilities incurred in commercial transactions.

The House of Lords overruled the Court of Appeal's decision on October 24, 1983 (Sir John Donaldson, Master of the Rolls, Lord Justice May and Lord Justice Dillon) that such orders did not infringe the State Immunity Act 1978 (The Times October 26, 1983; [1983] 3 WLR 908) and restored the order of Mr Justice Hobbhouse who on October 21, 1983 set aside garnishee orders obtained by the plaintiffs, Alcom Ltd, against two London bank accounts of the defendants, the Republic of Colombia.

Mr Richard Slowe for the plaintiffs, Mr Anthony Thompson, QC and Mr Timothy Salomon for the defendants, Mr Simon D. Brown and Mrs Rosalyn Higgins as amici curiae.

LORD DIPLOCK said that the decisive question was whether in the context of the other provisions of the Act, and against the background of its subject-matter, public international law, the words "property which is for the time being in use or intended for use for commercial purposes" appearing in section 13 (4) as an exception to the general immunity to the enforcement jurisdiction of United Kingdom courts, afforded by section 13 (2) to the property of a foreign state, was not to describe the debt represented by the balance standing to the credit of a current account kept with a commercial banker for the purpose of meeting the expenditure incurred in the day-to-day running of the diplomatic mission of a foreign state.

Such expenditure would, no doubt, include some moneys due under contracts for the supply of goods or services to the mission to meet which the mission would draw upon its current bank account; but the account would also be drawn upon to meet many other items of expenditure which fell outside even the extended definition of "com-

mercial purposes" for which section 17 (1) and section 13 (3) provided. The debt owed by the bank to the foreign sovereign state and represented by the credit balance in the current account kept by the diplomatic mission of that state as a possible, subject-matter of the enforcement jurisdiction of the court was one and indivisible; it was not susceptible of anticipatory dissection into the various uses to which moneys drawn upon it might have been put in the future if it had not been subjected to attachment by garnishee proceedings.

Unless it could be shown by the judgment creditor who was seeking to attach the credit balance by garnishee proceedings that the bank account was earmarked by the foreign state solely (save for de minimis exceptions) for being drawn upon to settle liabilities incurred in commercial transactions, as for example by issuing documentary credits in payment of the price of goods sold to the state, it could not be brought within the crucial words of the exception for which section 13 (4) provided.

The onus of proving that the balance standing to the credit of the diplomatic mission's current bank account fell within the exception created by the crucial words in section 13 (4) lay upon the judgment creditor. By section 13 (6) the head of the mission's certificate that property was not in use or intended for use by or on behalf of the state for commercial purposes was sufficient evidence of that fact unless the contrary was proved.

The Colombian Ambassador had given such a certificate and accordingly the bank account referred to fell outside section 13 (4).

His Lordship added that it needed to be said in fairness to the Republic of Colombia that the present case had not been one in which that state had been seeking to escape from satisfying a judgment on the merits given against it, on a cause of action for breach of contract.

Through a series of mischances and misunderstandings as to the new procedure for service of writs on foreign states, the Republic had failed to enter appearance timeously and judgment in default of appearance (now set aside) had been obtained against it.

Lord Fraser, Lord Keith, Lord Roskill and Lord Templeman agreed.

Solicitors: Mr William T. Stockler, Boodle Hatfield & Co; Treasury Solicitor.

Skeleton argument

Horcal Ltd v Garland
Counsel opening his appeal informed the Court of Appeal on April 11 that he had not prepared a skeleton argument because his argument was set out in the judgment of Mr Justice Glidewell (The Times May 4, 1983) from which he was appealing.

Lord Justice Lawton, sitting with Lord Justice Fox and Lord Justice Robert Goff, said that there was no need in simple and straightforward cases to produce skeleton arguments. If counsel was satisfied that his argument appeared in the judge's judgment that was sufficient.

In re Nielson.
Before Lord Diplock, Lord Keith of Kinkaid, Lord Roskill, Lord Bridge of Harwich and Lord Brightman
[Speeches delivered April 12]

In a case where surrender was not by the extradition treaty in question limited to persons accused of conduct constituting a crime of a particular kind, English law alone was relevant in deciding whether the evidence justified the commitment of a fugitive criminal to trial, and the examining magistrate had no jurisdiction to inquire into or receive evidence of the substantive criminal law of the foreign state in order to determine that the crime for which the extradition was requested was substantially similar in both countries.

The House of Lords, overruling long-standing practice, dismissed an appeal by Mr Jan Bonde Nielsen, a Danish national, from the Divisional Court (Lord Justice Robert Goff and Mr Justice Mann) who on May 12, 1983 (The Times May 17, 1983; 3 WLR 908) refused to grant a writ of Habeas Corpus. Ex parte Government of Denmark allowed an application by the respondent, the Government of Denmark, for judicial review of the decision of the Chief Metropolitan Magistrate at Bow Street (Mr D. A. Hopkin) ordering the appellant's discharge.

Section 10 of the Extradition Act 1870 provides: "In the case of a fugitive criminal accused of an extradition crime, if the foreign warrant authorising the arrest of such criminal is duly authenticated, and such evidence is produced as (subject to the provisions of this Act) would, according to the law of England, justify the commitment for trial of the prisoner if the crime of which he is accused had been committed in England, the police magistrate shall commit him to prison, but otherwise shall order him to be discharged."

Mr John Mathew, QC and Mr Clive Stanbrook for the appellant; Mr Clive Nichols, QC and Mr Alan Jones for the Government of Denmark.

LORD DIPLOCK said that "the crime of which he is accused" in section 10 of the 1870 Act, meant the crime specified in an order by the secretary of state to the magistrate to proceed to issue his warrant for the apprehension of the fugitive criminal to show cause why he should not be surrendered for that crime pursuant to the Extradition Act 1870 to 1932. The magistrate had no jurisdiction under section 10 to issue his warrant for commitment of the fugitive criminal for any crime other than one so specified.

Under the principal extradition treaty with Denmark of 1873, the documents accompanying the requisition for the surrender of a fugitive criminal in an "accusation" case would state the "acts" on account of which the fugitive was demanded by the Danish government.

It was for the secretary of state to make up his mind what crime those acts would have amounted to according to the English law in force at the time when they had been committed if they had been committed in England - in the instant case, the Theft Act 1968.

At the hearing before the Chief Metropolitan Magistrate pursuant to a practice that had apparently been followed at Bow Street in extradition cases since the judgment of a Divisional Court in *In re Arton* (No 2) (1896) 1 QB 509, evidence of Danish criminal law had been called on behalf of the Danish government, and in particular expert evidence as to the wording of, and practice followed in prosecutions under, article 280 of the Danish Criminal Code which was the offence referred to in the Danish warrant of arrest as being the crime committed in Denmark in respect of which that warrant had been issued.

On that expert evidence, the magistrate had apparently taken the view that, although there were other articles in the Danish Criminal Code that corresponded to the English offences referred to in the secretary of state's orders to proceed, the Danish offence created

by article 280 involved a narrower concept than was involved in any of the specified English offences. He had reported himself as bound by the secretary of state to be satisfied that the offences in English law and Danish law are substantially similar in concept and had taken the view that, for the purpose of determining whether there was the necessary similarity, he was compelled to confine himself to the description of the Danish offence contained in article 280.

The double comparison between the substantive criminal law of England and of the foreign state and between the versions in the English and the foreign language versions of the list of extraditable crimes in the treaty that appeared to have become an invariable practice in all extradition cases since *In re Arton* (No 2) had first been given the sobriquet of "double criminality" by Mr Justice Griffiths in *R v Governor of Pentonville Prison, Ex parte Budding* (1980) 1 WLR 1110. After discussion of the cases in which the practice had been followed, Mr Justice Griffiths had summarised it thus, at pp. 1122-1123: "... double criminality in our law of extradition is satisfied if it is shown: (1) that the crime for which extradition is demanded would be recognised as substantially similar in both countries; (2) that there is a *prima facie* case that the conduct of the accused amounted to the commission of the crime according to English law."

His Lordship could find no justification whatever in the 1870 Act for adopting at the hearing before the magistrate, under sections 9 and 10, evidence of foreign law directed to satisfying Mr Justice Griffiths's proposition (1) in an accusation case in which the surrender of a fugitive criminal was requisitioned by the Danish government under the principal treaty.

Except where there was a claim that the arrest was for a political offence, the magistrate was not concerned (in a case where the extradition treaty did not contain

provisions limiting surrender to persons accused of conduct that constituted a crime of a particular kind - for example one that attracted specified minimum penalties - in both England and the foreign state) with what provision of foreign criminal law (if any) was stated in the warrant to be the offence that the person was suspected of having committed and in respect of which his arrest had been ordered in the foreign state.

He must hear such evidence, including evidence made admissible by sections 14 and 15 of the 1870 Act, as might be produced on behalf of the requisitioning foreign government; and by the accused if he wished to do so; and at the conclusion of the evidence he must decide whether such evidence would, according to the law of England, justify the commitment for trial of the accused for an offence that was described in the 1870 list (as added to or amended by subsequent Extradition Acts) provided that such offence was also included in the extraditable crimes listed in the English language version of the extradition treaty.

In making that decision it was English law alone that was relevant. The requirement that he should make it did not give him any jurisdiction to inquire into or receive evidence of the substantive criminal law of the foreign state in which the conduct had in fact been committed.

The evidence of Danish law, adduced though it had been in accordance with the long-prevailing practice, was irrelevant. It should not have been admitted by the magistrate.

His Lordship would therefore uphold the order of the Divisional Court setting aside the magistrate's order for the appellant's discharge and remitting the case to the magistrate to continue hearing the case on the basis of the evidence that the Danish government wished to produce.

Lord Keith, Lord Roskill, Lord Bridge and Lord Brightman agreed. Solicitors: Messrs Crystal & Co; DPP.

Adverse possession by incorporation of land

Rodgwick Clay Works Ltd v Baker and Another
Before Mr Edward Evans-Lombe, QC
[Judgment delivered April 6]

The incorporation of a piece of land into the curtilage of a house demonstrated an intention to possess the land permanently, was inconsistent with the use of the land for future mining operations, and was capable of amounting to adverse possession.

Mr Edward Evans-Lombe, QC, sitting as a deputy judge of the Chancery Division to hold in a reserved judgment in refusing Rodgwick Clay Works Ltd a declaration that they were the true owners of a piece of land in Rodgwick, West Sussex.

Mr John Trenhale for the clay company, Mr Michael Templeman for Mr and Mrs Baker.

governed by the Limitation Act 1939. The Limitation Act 1980, and in particular paragraph 8(4) of Schedule 1 which related to "special purpose" cases did not apply. The relevant case law which did apply consisted of *Wallis v Carter Bay Holiday Camp Ltd v Shell-Mex and BP Ltd* (1975) QB 94 and the cases which succeeded it.

He found the following, *inter alia*, as facts the clay company had the paper title to the disputed land and had retained it with the object of ultimately mining it for clay; the Bakers and their predecessors in title had included the disputed land within a fence as part of the curtilage of their house, consistently cleared it of scrub woodland and used it for various limited agricultural and horticultural purposes in precisely the same way as the contiguous land which was unquestionably part of their property for over 13 years; the clay company must have known of this treatment of the land.

His Lordship found that this was not a case where the intention was merely to derive some enjoyment from the land wholly consistent with such use as the true owner might wish to make of it. The question as to whether adverse possession had been established was one of fact in which the clay company's proved intention to hold the land pending future mining operations was one of a number of matters for the consideration of the court, albeit a very important one.

Incorporation of what would otherwise be open land into the curtilage of a house was an act of possession different in kind from the periodical cultivation of a piece of unmarked agricultural land as in the *Wallis* case and implied an intention permanently to occupy the land in question.

Mr Trenhale conceded that building a bungalow would be inconsistent with the company's future exploitation of the land as a

claymine. His Lordship did not think there was any substantial difference in quality between the building of a house and the establishing of a curtilage round that house, a large tank would make equally short work of both of them, and both demonstrated an intention permanently to possess.

Solicitors: Mr Leslie A. Parker, Robbins Oliver & Lake, Gillingford.

Repairing covenant

Wainwright v Leeds City Council

There was no reason why the statutory covenant by a lessor to repair in section 32 of the Housing Act 1961 should be differently construed in the case of a local authority landlord or why a higher obligation should be put on them than on a private landlord. Lord Justice Dunn, sitting with Mr Justice Wood, said in the Court of Appeal on April 11.

Gain realized only
when land sold
can be disposed of

Yull v Fletcher
Before Lord Justice Walton, Lord Justice Oliver and Lord Justice Purchas
[Judgment delivered April 10]

For the purposes of section 498 of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1970, a gain was realized on the sale of land only when it could be effectively enjoyed and disposed of. Where, therefore, parcels of land were sold upon terms, *inter alia*, that the proceeds of sale should be deposited with a third party and subsequently released to the vendors by annual instalments, subject to certain conditions, then the gain was only realized when those instalments were ultimately received, and not at the time of sale, even though the contractual rights then acquired might have had a saleable value.

The Court of Appeal dismissed an appeal by Mr Cecil Yull from the order of Mr Justice Walton on April 15, 1983 (The Times, April 20, 1983) affirming a decision of the special commissioners upholding, with some adjustment of figures, assessments to income tax on Mr Yull pursuant to section 488 relating to the years 1976 to 1980 inclusive.

In 1972 two parcels of land in Co. Durham were conveyed for a total of £127,000 to companies resident in Guernsey and controlled by Mr Yull. The sales were carried out with the sole or main object of realizing gains from the disposal of that land once planning permission had been acquired.

In 1974 planning permission was obtained and the companies contracted to sell the land to one of the taxpayer's other companies for £700,000 and £648,000 respectively. The contracts provided for part repayment of the agreed purchase prices in the event of land nationalization within five years.

It was further agreed that substantial parts of the purchase prices should not be paid to the two Guernsey companies but should be loaned to a third party, each loan to be repayable to the vendors by instalments in future years.

An appeal by the taxpayer against an assessment on him to income tax for 1973-74 of £17,298,800 made in respect of development gains by virtue of section 488(5) and (8) of the 1970 Act, was allowed by the House of Lords; see *Yull v Walton* (1980) 1 WLR 939. They reduced the assessment to £1,417 on the ground that the years purchase prices had not been realized as gains for 1973-74.

The revenue subsequently made four assessments to income tax on the taxpayer for the years 1976 to 1980 inclusive, with the year 1976 which the outstanding instalments of the purchase prices were paid to the two companies.

The special commissioners dismissed the taxpayer's appeal against those assessments in principle. Mr

Justice Walton upheld that determination and Mr Yull appealed.

Mr Leon Price, QC and Mr C. W. Koenigsberger for Mr Yull; Mr Charles Potter, QC and Mr Christopher McCall for the Crown.

LORD JUSTICE OLIVER said that section 488 had been enacted to prevent the avoidance of tax by persons concerned with land or the development of land. By subsection (2) it applied, *inter alia*, where land was acquired in order to realize a gain, and where, by means of an arrangement or scheme in which he was concerned, a person was able to realize a gain of a capital nature by an indirect method or by a series of transactions.

Subsection (3) provided that where the section applied the whole of any gain should be treated as being income which arises when the gain is realized, and which constitutes profits or gains chargeable to tax under Case VI of Schedule D for the chargeable period in which the gain is realized.

What was said on behalf of the taxpayer was that although his two Guernsey companies had received moneys pursuant to the contract in the periods concerned by the assessment in question, they had not realized a gain in those periods.

The gain had already been realized in the years in which the contracts had been made because each company had then received a valuable benefit in the form of a right under its contract to receive moneys in the future which had been at its absolute disposal.

But the House of Lords had made it clear in the earlier case that these contracts were not contracts for "money's worth" but simply contracts for the payment of money, and that gains would be realized, as and when the money was withdrawn from deposit under the terms of the relevant agreements; see *Yull v Walton*, per Viscount Dilhorne at p. 912.

Whether a gain had been realized was a question of fact in each case, although obviously a question which would depend on the contractual rights of the person making the gain.

In the instant case, it was not contended that the companies either had or had attempted to dispose of their rights to payment of the contractual consideration and there was no ground for saying that a gain had been "realized" either as a matter of fact or of law simply because those contractual rights existed and might have been assigned or subordinated to a third party. It followed that the appeal should be dismissed.

Lord Justice Walton delivered a concurring judgment and Lord Justice Purchas agreed.

Solicitors: Sinclair Roche & Temperley, for Tilly Bailey & Irvine, Harlepool; Solicitor of Inland Revenue.



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SPECTRUM

Psychiatrist and broadcaster Anthony Clare has a natural and articulate public curiosity. But about himself he maintains an intensely private silence. Laurie Taylor puts him on the couch for a diagnosis

Curiouser and curiouser

Few people talk so well as Anthony Clare. Throw him a subject and before you can say Bob Robinson he's after it like a terrier: nudging it querulously this way and that, wheeling his way through its ramifications, and all the while assuming such a look of intense puzzlement that you are flattered into believing your simple conversational topic might actually hold the key to the future of civilization.

But in the course of this display very little is revealed about Anthony Clare himself. For years I sat across the table from him in that sub-basement of Broadcasting House where *Stop the Week* is recorded and earnestly discussed the value of Roger's *Thesaurus*, the character of Volvo drivers and the fearful threat to the British way of life posed by the abolition of the sixpence. But whereas such other contributors as Robert Robinson, the chairman, Milton Shulman and Ann Leslie were happy to embellish or even propel their arguments with a little autobiographical detail, some intimate reminiscence, Anthony, for all his rhetorical verve, was about as personally forthcoming as an *I Speak Your Weight* machine.

Of course, Clare is a psychiatrist - now indeed Professor of Psychological Medicine at Barts - and your typical shrink doesn't lean forward and say, "Well, Mr Zimmerman, that's all very interesting, now let me tell you about my secret hopes and fears". But we were in a studio, not a clinic. Why couldn't he let his guard down a little?

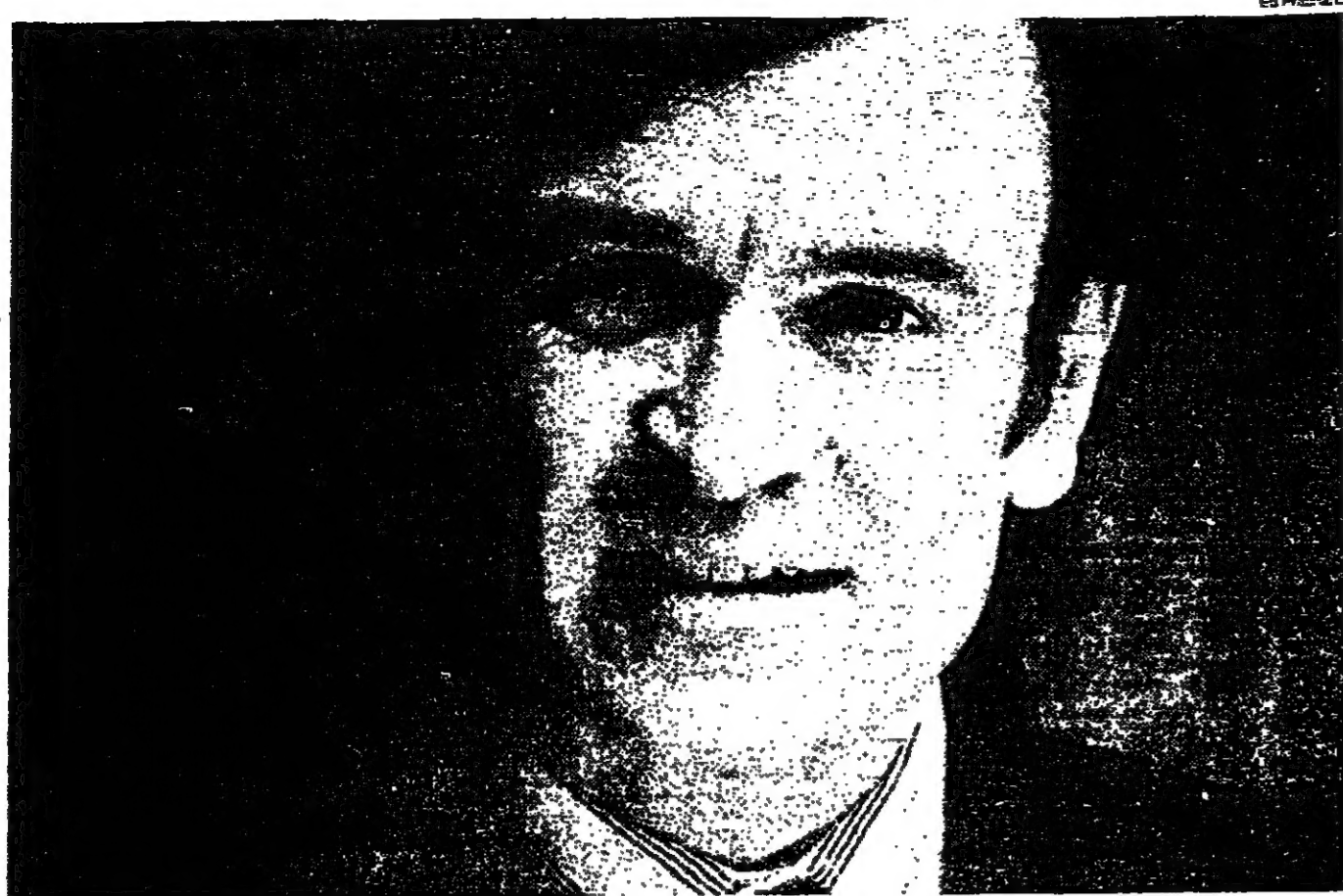
Then, to make matters worse, along came *In the Psychiatrist's Chair* in which he not only enjoyed all the personal immunity of the media interviewer - of a Robin Day or a Ludovic Kennedy - but actually came on as a psychiatrist as well. In such

In Ireland there are always demands to belong

circumstances questions about Clare's own motives were virtually *légalité*. No wonder most of his subjects just lay back on the couch and behaved themselves.

So, as soon as we had ordered lunch and played a couple of rounds of Senior Common Room, I asked if he had ever considered that there might be something, well, a little "pathological" about all this detachment?

"Well, really, the radio series was intended to be more mutual than it turned out. It was. And in fact I'm much more revealing about myself than the average analyst would be.



Anthony Clare: "I'm at my most voyeuristic when I'm confronted by creative people"

Somebody described the interview with Spike Milligan as 'an ordeal by fire'. Very non-psychiatric in many ways. Nevertheless. You're right. It was not mutual. There was much less revealed of me than the other."

So, what was there about him which made him so comfortable with such lack of mutuality?

"I suppose I do have a kind of fastidious detachment. It's linked to my past. In Ireland, there are always great demands for you to join and belong. (Clare was born in Dublin in 1942). The Roman Catholic commitment. The family commitment. And of course Ireland is full of political commitment. Inevitably there's a lot of covert dissonance. But for one reason or another I wasn't very good at being covert. So I came out of Ireland. (He arrived in England in 1970). That was a big act of detachment. Although I go back a lot, I enjoy being there and not there. I often quote, though it's a bit of a cheat, Joyce's remark when asked - in Trieste - when was he going to go back to Ireland, and he said 'I've never

left it'. That's lovely. Trieste, for God's sake! Hammersmith or Hackney, maybe."

I dragged the conversation back from the edges of literature and asked if that claustrophobic aspect of Irish life was really sufficient explanation for his fear of personal commitment. Was there any other influence in that direction?

"Oh yes. A very important one. My time at the Maudsley (the Maudsley Hospital in South London, where Clare was based as a research fellow from 1970 to 1983). The Maudsley very strongly reinforced the value of detachment. The spirit of a man called Aubrey Lewis was still very powerful there - although he'd retired. Scepticism about everything. About everything. Some called it nihilism. I know it all made me a better destroyer than a creator."

He had treated the work "creator" with some reverence. I wondered if he specially envied the artists and innovators he had interviewed in his series.

"That's right. I'm at my most voyeuristic when I'm confronted by creative people. They interest me the most. I'm not creative. That would be my major deficiency. One senses one's strengths, and creativity is not one of mine. I envy - envy - those who make much of their immediate human surroundings and turn them very quickly into scarcely disguised fiction. When I interviewed Beryl Bainbridge I was obsessed with how she did it."

Medicine usually breeds middle-rank writers

His voice went up into the octave Clare reserves for extreme incredulity. "How did she do it?" And yet, I have the material. The people who pass through a very ordinary clinic - their stories, their personal accounts - make the average 'Wednesday Play' seem very dull. In fact, one of my literary heroes would be Chekhov because he was the only one who seemed able to use the material of medicine and really elevate it to the levels of high art. Otherwise medicine usually breeds middle-rank writers."

When it comes to academic literature, Clare is well above middle rank. But interestingly even here, in such readable and informed texts as *Psychiatry in Dissent* and *Let's Talk About Me*, he is most concerned about the dangers of over-commitment to particular psychiatric schools. So, while there is something definitely Freudian in the emphases in his radio series upon frustration and crisis, there is little on sexuality or very early childhood. Was he a faint-hearted Freudian, perhaps?

"No, no. But we've got to the stage where no reasonable individual can any longer deny many Freudian ideas. In fact we have reached the point where a patient can anticipate a Freudian interpretation. I find it difficult to express affection for my son", says a mother, 'because I'm aware of all those problems about Oedipal conflict'. Psychoanalysis is too time-bound and culture-bound."

But wasn't that a little glib? Weren't there analysts who would argue that the Victorian sexual hysteria had now merely been replaced by an equally deformed character type - the Narcissist - people who believed that they might only truly discover themselves in the positive and public appraisals of others? Had he thought about this in connexion with his own courting of the media? After all there wasn't just *In the Psychiatrist's Chair*, there was its television version, *Mothers*, and good old *Stop the Week*, and the Capital Radio chat shows, even, for heaven's sake, the BBC TV series *Q.E.D.* ("Why on earth is Anthony Clare doing the commentary for this?", asked one bemused TV critic. "Is it a new form of Irish whimsy?")

"Well, I'm tempted to say, how about you?"

I gave him the silent psychiatric look I had been practising on the way down from York that morning. It seemed to work.

"Yes, I am conscious of a profound contradiction in my position. I'm very aware as a psychiatrist of this growth of the individual who believes that he has only one life and it is going to be fully lived and that will include a great public performance if necessary. And I'm profoundly sceptical about the value of such a public life. And yet, here I am, as you say, doing, well, radio and television."

I let him stew, if that's the psychiatric term.

"Well, I suppose I'd say there's always the money. And I'd also defend it in terms of quality. That's important. The quality not the essence. And I'm also naturally curious. I am very curious about motives."

But wasn't endless curiosity, about motives and meanings and emotion and self, the very stuff of narcissism?

"You do touch me right on the raw when you put curiosity alongside narcissism like that. And yet there is a distinction here on which I hang my defence. *Narcissus*. Let me get it right. Yes, I know what it is. It's something I found in California. Narcissism is a curiosity about one's self - an absolute absorption with the self. Whereas, curiosity - and we Irish are a naturally curious people - is about each other. I think that's why there are so many of us on the media. It's not narcissism. My curiosity is about others. Inter-

viewing them, talking to them, poking through their letters."

But the people in his series weren't just "others", were they? They were famous. I had read elsewhere that he justified this by saying that this helped ordinary people to recognize the personal price that often has to be paid by the very successful. Might not cynics, however, suspect that contact with such people massaged his own ego? He didn't select them because he liked them.

"I'm a sucker for all individuals", he insisted. "Most individuals I like." I mentioned historian David Irving. "Well, for Irving, 'like' is the wrong word, and 'pity' is too patronizing. I don't know the word in his case." And advertising executive Peter Marsh? "Marsh I found very difficult. You see I particularly like people who have some sense of flaw and failure and can

I love to find someone who doesn't fit the theory

admit to it. Nell Dunn I was drawn to. People who are uncertain. I'm not sure I go for clarity."

How then did he react to those interviewees, such as surgeon Hugh Dudley, who just didn't seem to like answering personal questions about their lives?

"I rather warmed to Dudley's integrity. In his situation, I see the strengths of non-reflection. And knowing about it. That's what I like. Dudley's intelligent enough to know. He's not unaware of his inner life. He just says it's inappropriate. I admire that."

Or those who resist his interpretations, who don't fit the psychiatric pattern. Did they upset him?

"Quite the opposite. When I interviewed Sidney Weighell on television about the terrible accident in which his wife died - after that accident, he said something you're not meant to do. He bottled it all up. Didn't talk to anybody. Went off. Dug his garden - almost literally - for a year, and then pulled himself together again. Now that flies in the face of the theory that he should have mourned openly. And I know some of my colleagues in the same interview situation would have pressed harder. 'Maybe he's grieving', and so on. But I don't want to find someone who proves the theory isn't quite right."

Possibly I was paying too much attention to my raspberry flan but this was the point at which my interviewee's conversation suddenly floated free of its moorings - well away from any discussion of purely personal motives and ambitions. "You see, I'm also struck by the fact that even when people have it made they feel an inordinate need to wreck it all. And I'm fascinated by the role of accident. And of course by those who don't want to know too much about the reasons behind their fears and anxieties. Take Glenda Jackson, for example."

Once Clare gets himself into overdrive like this, you simply have to sit back and wait for your turn.

Fortunately, I'd kept back a few more intimate questions until the very end of the interview, for the time when we were on to the coffee and maybe he was more off guard, questions which might touch on his family life a little more: his marriage to a graduate in literature, his five, or was it six, children, his home life in Beckenham. I was rather pleased with the first one on my list. It was a nice way of seeing if his personal reticence was really old-fashioned modesty. "Would you yourself like to be the subject of an interview by Anthony Clare?" I asked.

"There's no answer to that question", he announced decisively and took out his cloakroom ticket.

As we pulled on our coats I heard myself saying "Sorry". It was only a minor relief, to realize on the train back to York that evening, that I had not added "Doctor".

In the Psychiatrist's Chair, the edited transcripts of the first radio series, is published on April 19, by Chatto and Windus (£9.95).

moreover... Miles Kington

The rest of the world thinks that we British are hypocrites. We British haven't the faintest idea what the rest of the world is talking about. I thought I might have a hash today at explaining what they mean. It won't make any difference, but it might be fun trying.

Let us say, for a start, that the British are not exactly hypocritical, but that they are very good at believing two things which are diametrically opposite to each other. They believe that they have the best television in the world. At the same time, they are very good at pointing out how bad it is. They believe they have the best sense of humour in the world, including the art of being able to take a joke. At the same time, they can never bear it when a foreigner laughs at them.

I think it might be fair to say that during the Falklands war most of us were silently convinced that it was a mad and pointless exercise - in fact, we were hardly able to believe it was really happening. Which did not stop most of us very much wanting to win the war as clearly and crushingly as possible.

And, to come up to date, I think the British have a wonderful respect for the law. You can't start taking the law into your own hands... the law is the law... if you don't like the law, change it, don't break it. That's the sort of thing the British say. At the same time we are privately convinced that the law is also an ass, and we spend a great deal of our time trying to break it, bend it and chip little corners off it.

One reason for this is that there are far too many laws, many of which are plainly idiotic, unfair, out-of-date or irrelevant.

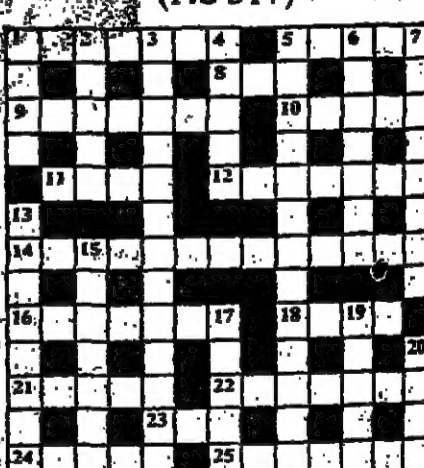
The Yorkshire miners provided a tasty example of this respect for, and simultaneous contempt of, the law recently, when they brought a motorway to a standstill by driving a slow convoy of cars up it. French lorry drivers tactically cried the media. But this was not so. The French would have blithely broken the law by dumping lorries on the motorway and leaving them there.

To come right up to date, the Official Secrets Act could be described as idiotic, unfair, out-of-date and irrelevant. When I was working at Punch 10 or 15 years ago, I received a long, detailed and enlightening letter from a reader in Swansea about the inefficiency and waste of money at the centre dealing with driving licences. I wrote back to him suggesting he might turn his letter into an article for us. He wrote back explaining that, being an employee at the centre, he had signed the Official Secrets Act and could be thrown out, nay prosecuted, for revealing anything that went on there.

To put it another way, a law which had been hastily passed in, I believe, 1911 to stop our military secrets passing to the Germans was 60 years later being used to stop details of the waste of taxpayers' money passing to a British magazine.

I personally have a healthy disrespect for the law. I also believe in it passionately. As I said, we have, especially in the area of a constitution, I have no difficulty in combining these two contradictory attitudes. A foreigner would laugh at me and say I was being hypocritical. I think he might be right.

CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 317)



- | | |
|---|--------------------------------|
| ACROSS | DOWN |
| 1. Screeches (7) | 1. Team (4) |
| 2. Not fixed (5) | 2. Loosen (5) |
| 3. Female bird (3) | 3. Royal Berkshire house (7,6) |
| 4. Relaxation of tension (7) | 4. Very steep (5) |
| 5. Foes (5) | 5. Out of vogue (13) |
| 6. Not as much (4) | 6. Incentives (7) |
| 7. Deliverer (7) | 7. Dynamic (8) |
| 8. Household head (13) | 8. Unmarried woman (8) |
| 9. Absolute blessedness (7) | 9. Land (7) |
| 10. Scold (4) | 10. Royal racecourse (5) |
| 11. Health proposal (5) | 11. Seabird dung (5) |
| 12. Laid (3) | 12. Actual (4) |
| 13. Laid (3) | |
| 14. Target distance (5) | |
| 15. Three-toed leaf (7) | |
| SOLUTION TO No 316 | |
| ACROSS: 1 Taiwan 5 Dazzle 8 Over 9 Follow 10 Orgate 11 Sleep 12 Exposure | |
| 13 Knowledgeable 17 Herries 19 Elm 21 Planet 22 Idling 24 Run 25 Asray 26 Gutter | |
| DOWN: 2 Stone 3 Willpower 4 Nowhere 5 Droop 6 Zen 7 Lateral 13 Scapegoat 15 Needles 16 Gushing 18 Entry 20 Spume 22 Nor | |

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FRIDAY PAGE

Alan Franks counts the cost on children of broken marriages and Judy Froshaug talks to some weekend parents

When the family knot is undone

The couple had been getting on badly for some time. Maybe they were too young, or the courtship too long, or their families' expectations too far advanced. Whatever the reasons, they had children, two of them in 20 months, to "leave the marriage." The babies must have been very poorly briefed, for from bringing about a rapprochement, they drove the wedge ever deeper between the parents. Just for a while, our couple (let us call them David and Charlotte) thought about staying together "for the children's sake," until it became plain that the children, by then five and three, were suffering as a result of the rift.

You will find David this Saturday afternoon in the Natural History Museum, showing his two sons the great brontosaurus skeleton and wondering how to fill the next two hours until it is time to take them "home."

Though he and his wife separated six months ago, they have joint custody of the children, which means that while he has equal rights in making major decisions, he has in effect become a weekend parent relating to them now through regular access rather than residence.

The trouble is that because divorce and separation are seen as basically adult experiences, the children are too often regarded as extension of the parental dispute at the very time when they most need to be the objects of a unified front. Because of the increasing facility of divorce, no fewer than 20 per cent of children in Great Britain will experience its effects by the time they turn 16. And of all parents who after separation adopt the visiting rather than the custodial role, half will have ceased to maintain contact with their children after two years.

Huge though that proportion sounds, the reasons for it are not

hard to find. The visiting partner - and we have little choice but to refer to it as "he", since nine out of 10 parents leaving the matrimonial home are male - may find the whole process of collecting and dropping too painful. Whether it was he who "walked out", or she who "pushed" him, it cannot be much fun to turn up at the old place, with its ambivalent air of happy home and emotional battleground, and to have a brief, exiled session with the children who are so clearly falling away from his sphere of influence. All this is not to say that the remaining parent's lot is exactly happy, what with the loss of support now compounding the earlier loss of companionship. But at least she has the children.

As Renate Olins, director of the London Marriage Guidance Council, says, there is a stage for many couples when the question of money becomes crucial to the exercising of access rights. "What happens, for example, if the mother and children, or the father, move 300 miles away?" She says, "suddenly there's a £20 or £30 fare to be considered every other week, apart from the travelling time."

Also, it is unlikely that the father, having left, is going to be able to set up another home comparable to the first, which the children will feel drawn to visit.

And that, says Mrs Olins, takes no account of what might happen if the father sets up house with another woman. This is notoriously a point at which not only the mother discourages visits, but also he himself loses the zeal for access.

A growing view is the present adversarial system of the courts must be replaced by a strong network of conciliation services. In his essay, *Children and the Divorce Courts*, Martin Richards, head of the Cambridge University Child Care



and Development Group, describes the law as "a crude method of trying to regulate human relationships and settle family disputes". Courts should go out of their way, he says, to confirm the continuing role of both parents.

Given that by the time the couple comes before the Family Division of the High Court the domestic fire is well and truly in the judicial fire, this is sooner said than done.

Six years ago the Bristol Courts Family Conciliation Service was founded with a grant from the Nuffield Foundation. It soon became a pioneer in the "non-legal" settlement of custody and access problems: there are now 21 similar agencies throughout the country. The Bristol service has lived in fear of closure since the Home Office took over responsibility for its

funding, yet the value of its function is well proven.

The submissions to the Booth Committee on Matrimonial Procedures, which published its consultation paper last year, may well indicate a growth in the "conciliation lobby". Already the committee is backing the principle that joint custody should be the norm in divorce proceedings, with the burden of proof falling on the parent who claims a right to sole custody.

Encouraging though these trends are, they do not solve the problems of alienation and distance which are the lot of the weekend parent. Nor do they remove the deprivation of the children. From their point of view, as the coordinator of the Bristol service, Rosemary Fraser, puts it, "the benefit of access depends entirely on the parents' ability to manage it."

"The relationship was really over before she was born. But against all our friends' advice and our own better judgment we decided to try once more - for the baby's sake. It didn't work. After two years she threw me out. I raged, begged, made a lot of trouble, but at the time it hurt. She took out an injunction, and I was given access for two hours on Sundays. She always made sure I took Rosie during Sunday lunchtime opening hours, but in the summer

"We divorced after 20 years of marriage. I came home one weekend to find the house half stripped, and she and the children had gone. No warning. Nothing. We have joint custody, but it's meaningless. She's been obstructive all the way. At first they came every Sunday and one evening each a week. She managed to get the access altered to every other weekend, and I'm allowed to phone only once a week. The welfare officer is a divorced woman with a daughter, the magistrate an elderly single woman with no children. My

After the divorce, I used to see my son Jamie every weekend. Several years ago she went for a holiday to Florida with Jamie and, as I later discovered, an old Polish boyfriend - she's Polish too. She rang me after a couple of months to say she'd moved there. "When am I going to see my son?" I asked. She said, "Move here." Eventually, after I had made a lot of fuss, she came back briefly and we agreed that I would have him on alternate summer holidays and at Christmas. I went to Florida the first time; she used me as a baby-sitter and her boyfriend kept

"I was much younger than he. I ran off - I think that's what one says - with someone my own age, whom I subsequently married. My daughter was two, and I left her with her father until I was settled. It was very easy for him to get custody, even though I was the mother. He could prove that I had neglected the child by leaving and was having an affair with another man. I had also had drink and drug problems and was under a psychiatrist for a time. He, on the other hand, appeared very stable, had

This week

TERRY, 35, PROPERTY DEVELOPER

divorced; one daughter, aged six
we'd go to a pub with a garden, or I'd take her to the park, to feed the ducks on the pond. Taking her back was misery. Once, when I gave her mother a kiss on the cheek she put her arms round our necks and pulled

us together, saying "Mummy and Daddy and Rosie". After I left, I cried. Now she's got a live-in guy with a kid, and it's all happy families. I, too, live happily with someone else. If I were lonely, penniless, in a bed-sit, I'd be bitter, but as a matter of fact things are much easier. Access more flexible, and Rosie seems happy. But she'll always know I'm her real father. I could never be a 'friend' or an uncle as some blokes could."

Next week

ROBERT, 52, REDUNDANT, COMPANY DIRECTOR

divorced two years ago; a son and daughter aged 9 and 11
ex-wife has a very good job, and has just bought a new house. I was made redundant several years ago and have a one-bedroom flat. The children used to go to Sunday school, and we all went to church when they came each week, or we'd go on

outings. Now the continuity is broken. She hides behind her 'friend' (male) - literally, sometimes - when I go to collect the children. I always put my hands straight in my pockets when I'm near him, just in case. My 'ex' is the best actress that never made the West End stage. In real life she's pretty, competent, efficient. See her in court and she's cowed, pathetic; she even leaves the hair rinses off so that the grey comes through. She'd like me to disappear out of her life and the children's. She hasn't a hope in hell."

Sometimes

PETER, 38, ARCHITECT

Divorced; one son aged 8

asking my why I was hanging around the house. Neighbours told me they were worried that Jamie wasn't being properly cared for; she was always a careless mother. She's a bit potty, like her own mother, but spiteful too. I also heard that she sometimes leaves Jamie alone in the

house half the night. He seems to spend a lot of time alone, or watching the television. He isn't doing well at school either, though he's very bright. What can you expect - her English and her maths are awful, and she works in the afternoons and evenings. I write to him every week, send him cards, stickers - and I phone. I'd love to get custody, but I know the moment I started to try she'd act like the model mother. I'd probably lose, and Jamie would suffer. I just hope she gets fed up with the responsibility and asks me to take him."

Never

MARGARET, 45, CHARITY WORKER

divorced; one daughter aged 25, one son aged 15 by second marriage

a nice house and enough money to employ a nanny. For the first year or so I tried to see my daughter all the time. He always refused, took her out, wouldn't let me in, put the phone down on me. To be fair he

loved her a lot, though he was over-protective. I moved away from London, because of my second husband's work. I wrote and asked whether I could see my daughter; he didn't answer. Eventually I gave up trying. I could have gone to the courts but I left I hadn't a leg to stand on. I hadn't the heart for it. I wrote to my daughter, but she never got the letters. I know, because I've seen her since she grew up and her father died. When we finally met we were strangers."

Furry but dangerous



The destruction grey squirrels have caused to trees in East Anglia during the cold spring is nothing to their lethal potential

in the southern United States, where their fleas have become the vector for the Black Death. It is reported that the number of cases in Arizona, Colorado, Texas and New Mexico, has doubled to 40 in the past year.

The Black Death, or plague, endemic in parts of the Far East, Central Africa and South America, is rare in the United States. It is caused by a gram-negative bacillus, *Pasteurella pestis*, usually transmitted by rat flea.

The disease occurs in three types. Bubonic plague presents with enlarged lymph glands in the groin or neck, buboes, from which it takes its name. These are only local signs of a severe systemic disease, for even with modern streptomycin treatment death occurs in 60 per cent of cases within three to five days.

The Black Death which decimated medieval Europe was probably pneumonic plague, so-called because the lungs were destroyed by breathlessness, turning the patient's complexion into a blue. Untreated patients die within 48 hours.

Finally, there is an ever more rapidly spreading form, septicaemic plague: the this type the disease spreads with fatal results before local symptoms have time to show.

Undoing vasectomy

Mrs Patricia Thake, of Bidborough, Kent, conceived a baby three years after her husband, Donald, had a vasectomy. The month they were awarded £10,000 damages because, the judge said, the surgeon should have warned them that there was a very remote possibility that a canal could form through the scar tissue between the cut ends of the vas deferens.

Mr Thake's experience must be extraordinarily rare. Vasectomy is an exceptionally reliable form of contraception, although post-operative microscopic tests to confirm success are needed. A far more common problem is that men who have had a vasectomy want it reversed.

A recent article in *The Lancet* suggested that one per cent of the annual total of 80,000 men who have the operation regret it. I report in this week's *Medical Journal of Australia* by Sydney microsurgeons, Mr Earl Owen and Mr Hari Kapila, gives hope that in many cases modern surgery may make reversal possible.

BEST MEDICAL TV PROGRAMME

Pearl Assurance are sponsoring the Medical Journalists Association award for the best medical television programme transmitted in 1983-84. The winning entry will receive the Pearl Assurance £1,000 trophy and £1,000. For full details and entry form, to be returned by 31st May 1984, contact: Pearl Assurance, General Manager (Field Operations), The Pearl Assurance, 100, The Strand, London WC2R 0EZ.

MEDICAL BRIEFING

Ears alert



History does not record whether the Emperor Hadrian enjoyed a cholesterol-rich diet but it is known that he had a competitive, striving, type 'A' personality and exercised or not by his long marches, he developed coronary heart disease.

Physicians examining his statue would not be surprised, for his ear lobes have the telltale diagonal crease. This crease is often seen in babies, but disappears in childhood, returning after the age of 50. A letter from Dr Frank Sanders to the *New England Journal of Medicine* in 1973 first highlighted this diagnostic sign. A large survey from Copenhagen published in the same journal in 1975 suggested an even closer correlation between heart disease and the crease than with diabetes or hypertension. In the Copenhagen study coronary heart disease was approximately twice as common in patients aged between 50 and 70 with a crease than in those without.

Dr William Elliott, from St Louis, Missouri, has recently reported in *The American Journal of Medicine* on a review of the world literature. This confirmed his own study of 1,000 unselected patients. He found that 275 of the 373 patients with a crease had marked disease, but only 101 of 627 whose ears were uncreased.

In his review of the literature he found ear lobe creases rare under the age of 40, but when present they strongly suggested serious coronary disease. About 50 per cent of his own patients between 50 and 70 had creases.

Vasectomy, although only popular in the last 20 years, was first used as a means of contraception just before the turn of the century. No sooner was it introduced than some people wanted the surgeon's handwork undone. As early as 1902 the first paper appeared on the possibility of reversing the operation.

Among surgeons who specialise in reversal operation there has long been an argument about the advantages of microsurgery compared to traditional surgical techniques. The Sydney surgeons' results will hearten the advocates of microsurgery. Ninety per cent of their 475 patients produced live sperm soon after the operation, 82 per

cent of their wives had become pregnant within two years.

The surgeons report that success was in part dependant on the technique used in the initial operation and the time which had elapsed since it was done. An interval of under 10 years was advantageous.

The Family Planning Association told *The Times* that although it welcomed advances in reversal techniques it felt that every man who opted for vasectomy should consider it irreversible, as only by reasoning in this way could the possibility of crippling disappointment be avoided.

The acid test

The introduction in 1976 of cimetidine (Tagamet), the first of the H2 antagonists, drugs that suppress the production of gastric acidity, revolutionized the treatment of indigestion whether due to oesophagitis, gastric or duodenal inflammation or ulceration. Most dyspeptic patients found that the nocturnal raids on the refrigerator for soothing milk, or the bathroom cupboard for alkaline medicine, became a memory. It soon became equally apparent that although initial healing and relief of symptoms was usual, a large proportion of patients relapsed within a year of discontinuing treatment and had to resort again to tablets.

In 1981 a rival firm introduced a different H2 antagonist, ranitidine (Zantac). Since then a battle as fierce as that between lawn-mower manufacturers has been waged in the columns of the medical press for £37 million prize money, the value of the peptic ulcer market in the United Kingdom alone, and a worldwide market many times this. Until this month neither side was able to show a clear advantage: numerous international trials, whether for short term treatment, long term maintenance, or relapse rate, returned virtually identical results. Costs are similar. On March 9 a meeting organized by ranitidine manufacturers reported a survey involving 575 patients in Britain and the US, which showed that patients taking their product had a relapse rate only half that of cimetidine-takers.

The manufacturers of cimetidine were as astonished as the rest of the medical world, and suggested that as this was only one trial amongst many its results might be chance. They await the publication of the trial details before drawing firm conclusions, but have now counter-attacked by drawing attention to a letter in *The Lancet* which reports on a trial involving 119 ulcer patients taking cimetidine. It showed that a single dose of 800mg of cimetidine taken at night when hyper-acidity is at its greatest was more effective than 400mg taken night and morning; the ulcer healed in 87 per cent of the patients on this new regime, as opposed to 73 per cent in the old.

Dr Thomas Stuttford

A YEAR OF ACHIEVEMENT AND PROMISE.

“Everything we do has to be paid for. The money has to be raised by our own efforts - every penny of it. We get no State aid whatever, and depend entirely on the support and generosity of the public.”

Angus Ogilvy.
PRESIDENT

DAVID INNES WILLIAMS - CHAIRMAN OF COUNCIL REPORTS SIGNIFICANT ADVANCES.

The year 1982/83 has been an active and successful one for ICRF, a year both of achievement and promise. We have been able to present significant advances in our understanding of cancer, as well as in the prospect of cure, and we have had the opportunity, through the generosity of our benefactors, to initiate some very important new projects, which we can confidently predict will bear fruit in years to come.

NEW LABORATORIES.

Our major building project, the new laboratory at Clare Hall, South Mimms, is proceeding apace: the first phase will be ready for commissioning in September 1984 and plans for the scientific work to be undertaken there are well advanced, complementing the research carried on in Lincoln's Inn Fields.

Last year I was able to announce our intention to open a new unit in the Dominion House Laboratories at St. Bartholomew's Hospital to study viral and cellular oncogenes. This is now fully operational and holds great promise.

CLINICAL RESEARCH.

The Breast Unit at Guy's Hospital has always been amongst our most successful ventures. Initially concerned essentially with surgery and radiotherapy, the unit has also included medical oncologists whose interests have widened to include cancer in other sites as well as leukaemia. We have now decided therefore that the time has come to put the whole of cancer research in Guy's on to a sound footing, as part of the Medical School, as well as in the Hospital.

Accordingly, we are devoting a large sum of money to the endowment of a Professorial Chair of Oncology, which will be concerned with research into the medical and radiotherapeutic control of cancer as well as incorporating the surgical work already undertaken in the Breast Unit.

Colo-rectal cancer is almost as common as breast cancer, and we have always felt the need to extend our research endeavour into this area. St. Mark's Hospital for Rectal Disease has long

been recognised internationally as a centre of surgical advance, and we are now able to set up an ICRF research unit there, based on the already well established Departments of Surgery and Pathology.

Of particular interest to our investigators is the hereditary element found in some cancers of the bowel. The unit will inevitably be small compared with the Breast Unit for some time to come, but we will hope to see it develop.

Our close proximity to the Royal College of Surgeons has not always been exploited to the full. Now, however, we are embarking on a joint venture in the field of histopathology, once the starting-point of most cancer studies but now sometimes pushed into the background by other expanding disciplines.

We are setting up a shared facility which will offer a reference service for rare and obscure tumours as well as providing a spring board for the research applications of new methods of investigation.

SIR THOMAS GORE BROWNE - TREASURER COMMENTS:

The restoration of our finances to a more acceptable balance between Income and Expenditure which occurred last year, has enabled us to review and plan the implementation of a number of new projects, and some of those which had been temporarily deferred.

The Council of The Fund have now approved plans for expansion which will require capital expenditure in the order of £6.25 million over the next three years and which will ultimately add £1 million to our annual expenditure.

These include the construction of an additional laboratory block at South Mimms at a cost of £2.5 million, the endowment of a Professorial Oncology Unit at Guy's Hospital School for £2 million, the establishment of Units within St. Marks Hospital and The Royal College of Surgeons £435,000, and further development of our site in Lincoln's Inn Fields which will amount to £1 million.

That we have had a successful year is made clear not only by a 17% rise in our total income from £18.8 to £22 million but by the very positive response that we have received from the public to our new advertising campaign.

The decision to invest substantial resources in developments and projects which could require a lifetime of financial support is a fine judgement given the inevitable uncertainty of our source of funds. We spent £15.6 million in the year under review

and our recurrent expenditure will rise dramatically over the next two years. It is only through careful planning that we can now undertake capital expenditure of £6.25 million.

CHARITY ACCOUNTS.

There has been much debate both within the media and the accountancy profession concerning standards of charity reporting. The Accounting Standards Committee of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales is due to publish its recommendations shortly. It has always been our policy to present our Annual Report and Accounts in as clear and concise a manner as possible whilst trying to ensure that the donor is presented with sufficient information to evaluate the worth of his support.

In conclusion, we can justly claim that our Appeals expenditure, which this year is 5.1p of every £ received, is as low as any in the charitable field.

This is, in no small measure, due to the unceasing efforts of so many unpaid supporters and helpers in the country to whom I offer my sincerest thanks.

DR. W.F. BODMER - DIRECTOR OF RESEARCH.

In his statement to the Governors, Dr. W.F. Bodmer, FRS, Director of Research sets out the extensive nature of studies undertaken in the main laboratories.

He explains that the work of a cancer research institute must range from quite fundamental studies on the way that genes work, using the most appropriate model system whether it be a bacterium or a human cell, to applied studies such as on the relationship between diet and cancer, or on the best combination of drugs to use for chemotherapy.

Dr. Bodmer believes that ICRF must always seek to maintain a balance of work in different areas, feeding the applied end with fundamental advances, while maintaining momentum at the forefront of applications. For example, a major aim for improving the treatment of cancer is to find ways of attacking the cancer cell more specifically, without damaging normal tissue to anything like the same extent.

One way to do this is to attach a poison to a monoclonal antibody that reacts specifically with cancer tissue and hardly at all with normal tissue, and these systems are being made to work in the laboratory. The challenge now is to make this approach useful in the clinic.

One of the striking features of present day cancer research is the way that modern understanding and ability to manipulate cells, their genes, and their products has made the relationship between fundamental and applied research closer than ever before. It is also essential that cancer research takes advantage of modern technology: a genetic engineering laboratory for example, is incomplete without direct access to computing facilities.

Concluding with a tribute to the public whose generosity sustains us, he confidently reports progress in all these areas with a conviction that ICRF is in a position to seek new opportunities and challenges to further our research into the causes, prevention and cure of cancer.

IMPERIAL CANCER RESEARCH FUND.



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CRACKS IN THE PAVING

Wednesday's broadside against the Government front bench was the most effective Mr Heath has yet delivered from his position of prime minister-in-exile below the gangway. The issue was the transitional arrangements the Government proposes for London and the metropolitan counties preparatory to the abolition of the upper-tier authorities planned for the spring of 1986. The ground is narrow, but the Government's chosen dispositions render it exceedingly vulnerable. They are also symptomatic of the way it grapples with local government reform, which is to legislate in haste cutting out the usual preamble of the taking of evidence, independent and public evaluation, and modification in the light of discussion. This let's-get-on-with-it approach suits the Thatcher style; but when addressed to elected public corporations it smacks of high-handedness and looks like ill-prepared improvisation.

The debate on the paving legislation was noisy but it made some things clear. One is that there is good precedent for cancelling elections to local authorities that are doomed to extinction within a year of the election having been due to take place. So it was when London government was reformed in 1963 and local government elsewhere in England and Wales in 1972. Rhetoric about the death of democracy aimed in that direction falls wide of the mark.

Equally, there is no precedent for the substitution of a nominated council for an elected council during the transitional months, as the Bill proposes. *A fortiori* there is no precedent for effecting a change of political control by that means. That was the point Mr Heath rightly seized on. "Worst of all is the imposition by parliamentary diktat of a change of responsible party in London government. There cannot be any justification for that." The right course was to extend the life of the expiring councils for eleven months. Ministers had played it in such a way as to achieve the impossible, the mobilization of the majority of public opinion in London behind Mr Kenneth Livingstone.

Mr Jenkin and Mr Waldegrave replied that there was no precedent for their proposal because there was no precedent for the situation their proposal was tailored to fit. For the first time in a scheme of local government reform, there are already in existence the authorities to which the functions of the doomed authorities will be transferred. Therefore ministers had a choice of filling in with the present councils or filling in with nominees from the successor councils. They made the wrong choice because they fear, with some reason, obstruction if not frustration of the transfer by the councillors who are being unhorsed. It is the wrong choice because a change of party control of an elected body by fiat is more

to be avoided than the inconvenience or odium of assuming whatever temporary powers are thought necessary to make obstruction nugatory.

The committee stage of the Bill is to be taken on the floor of the House. Many would be pleased to see a tactical alliance formed there strong enough to oblige the Government to accept amendment of the Bill, to extend for eleven months the life of the present councils rather than supplant them with nominees.

Mr Jenkin speaks of chaos and confusion if matters are left in their hands for that extra few months. Perhaps he exaggerates the scope for mischief. His own Bill places special restraints and requirements on the transitional councils. Rate capping will be in place. The sense of responsibility of chief officers can be relied on. The audit commission can be alerted to a situation where "reasonableness" of expenditure will take on a new meaning from the imminence of the council's demise. But if Mr Jenkin still does not feel safe he can ask Parliament to add to his Bill a temporary requirement that such powers as borrowing for current purposes and disposal of assets be used only with the consent of the Secretary of State; and that these councils' blatant political advertising to save their skin ceases as soon as their mandated life expires in May of next year, if the audit has not by then struck it down as illegal.

TIME TO CLOSE THE OMAN FILE

Responsible leaders of the Labour Party are quite sure, and privately admit, that Mrs Thatcher's hands are absolutely clean in the matter of the Oman contract. Yet the front bench has remained silent as some of its backbenchers have pursued their campaign to suggest that the Prime Minister has somehow behaved inappropriately in the matter. The Shadow Cabinet wash their hands of it, apparently on the grounds that this sort of thing is an inevitable manifestation of politics, reassuring themselves with the thought that they would suffer the same treatment from the Tories if there were any chance of their being embarrassed in some similar way.

Indeed, at an earlier stage, Mr Peter Shore, Labour's spokesman on Trade and Industry, had the full support of his colleagues when he was bombarding the Prime Minister with a barrage of "have-you-stopped-beating-your-wife" questions and insinuations in a series of letters earlier this year, which went well beyond the legitimate attempt he was making to seek information. It has been plain throughout that if there is any political capital to be made from this episode, the Labour leadership is happy to accept it.

It is clear with hindsight, and perhaps should have been clear to Mrs Thatcher with foresight, that when her son, Mr Mark Thatcher, arrived in Oman at the same time as she did in 1981 it would probably have been sensible for her to suggest that he should leave. Since he was a consultant to Cementation,

which succeeded in getting a major contract from the Oman government, it would have been better for everyone else had he not been in Oman when the Prime Minister was quite properly encouraging the Oman government to buy British.

Of course, since Mr Thatcher was a free agent who was entitled to pursue his work as he chose there was no way of ensuring his departure if he had chosen not to go. Still, it is important that public figures should not, if they can help it, allow themselves to be put in a position in which an interaction of public and private interests can be suspected or (as in this case) exploited. Given that Mr Thatcher had been present in Oman at the same time as his mother then, when the matter became one of public controversy this year, the Prime Minister would have been better advised to have made a simple statement at once explaining the facts and giving an assurance that there had been no kind of impropriety.

It is easy to understand why she chose instead to confine herself initially to the statement that she was simply batting for Britain (though she has since amplified this). She rightly did not wish to seem to be assuming responsibility for her son's business life, beside which any explanation she gave could have been used as an excuse for further pressure. Still, Labour leaders argue that such a statement would have closed the matter, and perhaps it would.

The House of Commons Select Committee on Members' Interests has now twice rejected

complaints that Mrs Thatcher should have declared her interest in the Cementation contract. It has made quite clear that MPs are not required to register the interests of spouses or members of their families, but only their own. With the publication of the Select Committee's second rejection yesterday, the complaining Labour Member, Mr Dale Campbell-Savours, succeeded in having published, under privilege, his own case setting out fifteen "facts" and arguing that "incomparable and irresistible inferences to be drawn from them." The facts are essentially those which have already had publication in one form or another; his inferences include the statement that "the Prime Minister was consciously and deliberately advancing her son's interests," as well as those of Britain and Cementation. That is not the opinion of the majority of the Committee, and it seems not to be that of the Labour front-bench. Having had his say, therefore, Mr Campbell-Savours should rest content with it.

If there are black marks against Mr Mark Thatcher for not being more considerate and thoughtful in relation to his mother and against Mrs Thatcher for not being politically sensitive enough at the outset in handling this matter in parliament, the blackest mark is to the Labour MPs who persisted in trying to make political capital out of it. Mr Kinnock would be wise to advise them that in everyone's interest it is time for the Oman file to be closed and for what has increasingly looked like a vendetta to be ended.

SHORT, SHARP POLICY SHOCK

Mr Brittan's debut as Home Secretary during the debate on capital punishment last year gave the game away. A hard man he may have been as Chief Secretary to the Treasury, dry he may be in Cabinet debates but on matters of penal policy and criminal justice, he is, like most of his predecessors in office, a dogged empiricist. After nine months at the Home Office he emerges as a man of liberal mien with an enthusiasm for legal effectiveness. Not for him iconoclasm about traditional penal institutions nor difficult questions of policy (what are prisons for if they do not deter?) nor philosophic radicalism of a kind that might have tempted him to review some of the collectivist, "therapeutic" assumptions behind, say, the Children and Young Persons Act.

"Nakedly retributive" declared the Howard League on behalf of the penal liberals when Mr Brittan appeared at the Conservatives' party conference to announce - at last - determinate sentences for the most serious homicides. But since then the vocabulary has altered: no more retribution; scant reference even to deterrence. The phrases in Queen Anne's Gate are balance, control, making the system work. Indeed that has been Mr Brittan's object. While making scaring noises about the withdrawal of parole for certain offences the bulk of his decisions have had to do with

effective management. His well-won expansion of prison building has been matched by sincere efforts to reduce the use of custody, by means of community service orders and weekend sentences. Meanwhile he and his department have sat back, not unhappily, while the courts and the pressure groups have made the running on changes in the prison regime which seek to codify prisoners' rights, among them rights to legal representation.

The speech he gave on Wednesday to magistrates in Portsmouth was in tenor. For the most part Mr Brittan could have passed for his predecessor; he bewailed delays in bringing cases to trial; dilated upon alternatives to custody; talked (rightly enough) of deprivation of liberty as a last resort. Yet there were also hints of toughness, at least enough to make a casual viewer of the television news the other night think Mr Brittan was on the ball: the "short, sharp shock" regime was apparently to be extended, without waiting for his own internal review of the experiment. An empiricist no longer, it seemed.

Playing to the gallery, if that was what Mr Brittan was doing, does not make for considered or convincing penal policy. To extend the regime like this is to ignore a negative report from the Chief Inspector of Prisons, disillusionment among prison

staff (not in itself a reliable guide), and the absence of any evidence about less recidivism among those shocked and sharpened. Mr Brittan apparently set on one side an even more telling point. The figures from magistrates' courts suggest a shift away from detention centre orders towards youth custody - *ci-devant* borstal. That raises the possibility that magistrates are avoiding the brisk and disciplined regimes for some unknown but important set of reasons.

Mr Brittan should be clear. The ethos of the detention centres with the "tougher regime" may be - is - appealing because it satisfies a quite proper public instinct. But that has nothing to do with training capacity or any of the other rehabilitative fantasies entertained by some; this type of regime, whatever its virtues, looks to be no more effective in deterring crime or reducing recidivism than any other. Perhaps instead of gently edging away from the issues raised in the debates of last summer, Mr Brittan might look again. The public needs guidance on penal matters not palliation. Perhaps Mr Brittan should say: the purpose of juvenile custody, for serious offences, is to punish; if it also rehabilitates then that is a bonus. Let that principle guide the length of sentences rather than the nature, real or imagined, of the prison regime.

The greening of derelict land

From Mr David Howell, MP for Guildford (Conservative)

Sir, I am glad that Ferdinand Mount (feature, April 9) has joined the ranks of those in favour of a bit more spending on public works and I do not mind which of the many justifications for more action on this front he uses.

As he says, "the Government - and in particular the Treasury - is profoundly out of step with public opinion" on this issue.

Shouting "Humber Bridge" or "Concorde" really is no argument at all against getting ahead now with the infrastructure spending, the urban transport facilities (particularly in London) and the greening of derelict industrial areas which the Government's finances (and the capital markets) could well withstand and the under-employed construction sector could readily undertake - without extra pressure on either inflation or interest rates.

There is no conflict at all in this with the imperatives of the social market economy. Nor need there be the head-on conflict with rural England which some people - including, I think, Mr Mount - fear. A tendency persists to underestimate the potential for a vast, and green and pleasant, new city (or set of towns and villages) in the eastern half of London and to overlook the colossal acreage in cities still occupied by railway yards, disused gasworks and the like.

We could end up, if we are clever, with more green land, not less, as well as more homes. But the infrastructure necessary to underpin this prospect should be going into place now.

Yours faithfully,
DAVID HOWELL,
House of Commons,
April 9.

Social security net

From the Reverend Roy C. Allison

Sir, The social security system is at minimum a net to catch those who fall below an agreed poverty line. Its appeal procedure enables those who believe themselves to have been unfairly treated to have the benefit of a second opinion.

Administratively this appears to be very good - but it is totally inadequate for anyone who needs to appeal because they haven't even the money to buy food.

Two of the many people who have sought my advice recently have been in this position. One had received no benefit at all for several weeks because of an administrative error. Another - a woman with a 16-year-old son - spent this last weekend with nothing to eat after breakfast (except for a bag of chips and a bread roll provided by neighbours) because the supplementary benefit office had not sent the money which was due to them.

Each of these people would have continued without money and/or food if social representation had not been made to the DHSS office concerned.

It is accepted that everyone can make mistakes, but mistakes by the DHSS in circumstances such as these can cause women and children to go hungry.

Surely an additional independent immediate referral procedure must be introduced so that those facing hunger and deprivation as a result of administrative errors can find immediate assistance - even if its only power is to ask the local supplementary benefit office to look again at an applicant's claim.

Yours sincerely,
ROY C. ALLISON,
Bristol Methodist Mission,
Central Hall,
Old Market Street,
Bristol, Avon,
March 27.

Cutting and running?

From Mr Michael Boyden

Sir, What shall we make of a nation which at one moment, amid public furore, uproots and exiles a family, whose children are British citizens, but where the parents have outstayed their welcome and then proceeds in unseemly fashion to grant citizenship to a 17-year-old, 5,000 metre runner within 10 days of her application?

The only logical deduction - and by this shall they be judged - is that the Home Office is more interested in gold medals at the Olympics than in the plight of a miserable family, whose only crime was to have wanted to remain in Great Britain.

I remain, yours faithfully,
MICHAEL BOYDEN,
22 Carlton Road,
Hale, Cheshire,
April 10.

Funding youth training

From the Bishop of Liverpool

Sir, In your leader (March 31) about Liverpool City Council's failure to make a rate you say that "Mr Jenkin has said he can do nothing singular. But there is regional discretion in other ministerial briefs, notably through the Manpower Services Commission".

I wish I had more confidence that this was true. But as chairman of the MSC Area Manpower Board for Merseyside I have recently found little or no regional discretion in arguing our case against very rigid cuts with the industry ministers responsible for MSC.

The Community Programme, which offers £60 a week average to long-term unemployed, makes a very small-scale contribution. Merseyside has 139,000 unemployed, 77,000 long-term unemployed in MSC's terms (unemployed for 12 months). The Community Programme offers 6,651 places for 12 months only.

Another figure is unknown, namely the number unemployed for five years or 10 years. I believe that to be a very substantial number here.

Power struggle in Central America

From Mr Frank Griffith Dawson

Sir, On April 10 *The Times* reported that the US Department of State had explained that rejection of the International Court of Justice's jurisdiction over disputes involving Central America was necessary to prevent Nicaragua from converting the court into "a big propaganda forum". Your April 11 leader apparently accepted this explanation, although you rightly questioned its wisdom.

As anyone who has ever attended the court can attest, the four sets of lengthy written pleadings which litigants are allowed to present, the court's rules and standards of procedure and the formal, austere environment in which oral pleadings are heard combine to drain even highly contentious issues, such as the introduction of apartheid into South West Africa, of their immediate emotional impact.

Journalists and courtroom spectators find little or no sensational material or "propaganda" to report. Fears of a Perry Mason style judicial circus at The Hague are therefore baseless and one wonders if the US action might not have been dictated instead by apprehensions of an adverse decision.

The apparent lack of confidence by the United States in the court's impartiality contrasts sharply with Nicaragua's traditional attitude. In 1904 a long-standing boundary dispute between Honduras and Nicaragua was submitted to arbitration by Spain's King Alfonso XIII.

who, two years later, decided that the border between the two nations should coincide with the Rio Coco, the present frontier. Nicaragua at first accepted the award but subsequently claimed it had been improperly rendered and was too confusing to be put into effect.

After several armed clashes in the disputed area, in 1958 the two countries, which had already accepted the compulsory jurisdiction of the International Court of Justice, formally agreed to submit this specific dispute to its adjudication. Nicaragua at The Hague argued *inter alia* that the arbitral award was void because the king had exceeded his jurisdiction and had not given adequate reasons for his decision. The court disagreed and found for Honduras, thereby upholding the validity of the boundaries fixed in 1906.

Successive Nicaraguan governments, including the Sandinistas, have abided by the court's decision even though the court lacks the

physical power to enforce its judgment and must rely for compliance upon moral suasion and public opinion.

Yours faithfully,
FRANK GRIFFITH DAWSON,
Wolfson College, Cambridge,
April 12.

From Mr J. W. Wolonicki

Sir, Any approach to foreign policy which necessitates the asking of such questions as "The superpowers - is there a moral difference?" is misconceived. The critical question to be posed in superpower relations is "coexistence or coextinction?"

If one feels the need to superimpose a moral equation upon the conduct of foreign policy, it can only be utilitarian: whatever maintains the existing balance of power and discourages nuclear war is good.

No doubt the "Brezhnev-Reagan doctrine" of superpower intervention in their respective spheres of influence violates the United Nations Charter and offends against the principle of sovereign equality of states, but international law must reflect the reality of international relations and I defy anyone to read today the mercenary preamble of the Charter without blushing.

What matters in this game is that each side reacts predictably to perceived threats to its security, any failure to react may be interpreted as a sign of weakness which could encourage the other side to behave in a highly dangerous manner.

Looked at from this point of view, it is quite irrelevant whether United States policy in Central America is motivated by a desire to promote democracy or to protect the interests of United States investors. The only material question is what is the likely response of the Soviet Union.

Yours faithfully,
J. W. WOLONICKI,
Queens' College, Cambridge,
April 11.

From Mr Graham Greene, CH

Sir, Your report from Washington in *The Times* of April 5 is headed "Four states backing terror, Shultz says." Mr Shultz's arithmetic is a little off. I would add at least a fifth Power - the United States under President Reagan, which is aiding the death squads in El Salvador and the Contras, who include the relics of Somoza's National Guard, on the borders of Nicaragua.

Yours truly,
GRAHAM GREENE,
06600 Antibes, France,
April 5.

The Tisdall appeal

From Mr L. Norman Williams

Sir, The words that the Provost of King's College, Cambridge (April 12) places within quotation marks as being a report - unattributed; not in *The Times* - of what the Lord Chief Justice said in refusing Miss Sarah Tisdall leave to appeal bear no, or very little, relation to what was said in court.

The words used by the Lord Chief Justice, as noted by me in court, were:

"The fact that an individual disapproves of the law or thinks that it is unreasonable for him or her to have to obey it does not mean that that individual will escape prosecution or if convicted will escape punishment. People who believe in obeying the law only when it conforms to what they consider to be their own special interests must be reminded that they are misguided. It is dangerous arrogance for anyone, be they Foreign Office clerk or national newspaper, to presume to decide which laws they are obliged to observe and which they are not."

The Provost may be said to have written from false premises. Miss Tisdall's sentence results from her conviction for breach of trust and her oath, not her convictions, whatever they may be.

Yours faithfully,
L. NORMAN WILLIAMS,
Room 716,
Royal Courts of Justice,
Strand, WC2,
April 12.

Voice of experience

From Mr J. E. Whetton

Sir, Your correspondent, Mrs A. G. Lynne, asks (April 9) "is this really a British record" of yet another long-serving church chorister.

The answer, I'm afraid, is no Mr Walter Shepherd, of 5 Welbeck Road, Doncaster, has sung in the choir of St John's Church, Balby, since the age of seven, and he is now 94 (not out).

Yours faithfully,
J. E. WHETTON (Organist and choir-master, St John's Church, Balby),
186 Ticklehill Road,
Balby,
Doncaster, South Yorkshire.

Equally damaging is the blow to trust and good will, without which there would be no programme. We are currently closing 12 projects and cutting many more. All of these have been encouraged by us in good faith to believe that the emphasis in this first year of YTS was to be on improving the quality of training.

These cutbacks in YTS came only three months after a freeze was suddenly imposed on recruiting for the Community Programme. That froze for a period of up to six months over 2,000 places already agreed by my board.

As with cuts to local government, the effect is that moderate-minded men and women who work their heart out for people's needs in cities like Liverpool have their capacity to deliver the goods seriously weakened. No one should be surprised that some of those who face long-term deprivation should then turn to more extreme policies of confrontation.

Yours, etc,
DAVID LIVERPOOL,
Church House,
1 Hanover Street,
Liverpool,
April 6.

'Evening Post' and trade unions

From Mr C. G. Pole-Carew

Sir, In yesterday's edition of your newspaper (April 11) you published an "open letter" by Mr Phillip Whitehead which makes false accusations against my company and myself in connection with Mr David Dimbleby's decision to transfer the printing of his newspapers to one of our subsidiaries, TBF (Printers) Ltd. I would be most grateful if I might be allowed this one opportunity to correct the record, which has been wrongly stated so many times in so many papers.

We did not drive NUJ members out of the *Nottingham Evening Post* six years ago: 28 (out of 93) of our journalists, and less than half the NUJ membership, went on strike on the orders of their national executive for a wage increase of a sum which was roughly £1,000 per year less than they were currently earning.

Having broken their contracts of employment for such a crazy reason they were deemed no longer to work for us. The majority who continued to work were all summarily expelled from the NUJ.

I have never made the statement that I "always do my best to discredit and humiliate union officials", nor "make them stand throughout discussions", nor "continue meetings until they have missed the last bus or train".

True, on one occasion I gave a talk to the management of a newspaper when I advised them of the awfulness and violence that they could expect from union sources if they insisted, like us, on managing properly (they decided not to) and to be prepared in effect to play the unions at their own game. This is very far, though, from the blanket accusations Mr Whitehead levels against me.

In his final paragraph he says that the right of association is coming under threat from us. Yet of the six unions in our industry two have 100 per cent, two more substantial membership, whilst the remainder, the NUJ and NGA, have none because they - not us - have withdrawn membership from our staff.

The NUJ is a very vocal union but spokesmen should take care not to overstretch the truth.

We are a very technically advanced group of companies, generating above-average profits and wages, handling increasing work and expanding our workforce. The "burghers of Nottingham" know this: what does Mr Whitehead blub about it? Can it be that a union has been thwarted in driving Mr Dimbleby's papers out of business?

Yours etc,
CHRISTOPHER POLE-CAREW,
Managing Director,
Forman Hardy Holdings Ltd,
Forman Street,
Nottingham,
April 12.

From Mr David Dimbleby

Sir, When the NUJ first complained about our printing our Richmond newspapers at Nottingham we asked them for a list of alternative printers who could guarantee production, despite our two-month-old dispute with the NGA.

They suggested five companies. We contacted each and each refused to take on the work. In the six months since then they have not put forward any further names, which suggests that there is at present no alternative in this country to TBF (Printers) Ltd, of Nottingham.

Much as Mr Whitehead (feature, April 11) may huff and puff, he must recognise that it is not wilfulness or perversity that keeps us at Nottingham, but an instinct for survival.

He might be more fruitfully engaged trying to persuade the executive of his union, the NUJ, that having fought their battle with us through the Court of Appeal and the House of Lords they should now accept the decision of those courts; that the secondary action they have taken against us is illegal and must come to an end. Or does Mr Whitehead believe that the law should only be obeyed when it finds in your favour?

Yours faithfully,
DAVID DIMBLEBY,
Richmond and Twickenham Times,
14 King Street,
Richmond,
Surrey,
April 12.

Putting oneself forward

From Mr Christopher Billson

Sir, Sir Francis Avery Jones must surely be right in stating (April 9) that an Englishman prefers a low profile, but the reason why he wears his name badge at conferences in his left-hand lapel, I would respectfully suggest, has nothing to do with anonymity. If this were the case, he would dispense with the damn thing altogether.

No Sir, the reason is quite clear: Most of us wear our occasional buttonhole, regatta or Wimbledon badge where one's tailor provides. Just imagine the contortions that right-handers would endure for a right-hand lapel attachment.

Yours faithfully,
CHRISTOPHER BILLSON,
Dunston Park,
Shoreham-by-Sevenoaks,
Kent,
April 9.

From the Reverend Eric Thacker

Sir, At conferences, particularly those involving many clergymen, I have occasionally taken to wearing my name badge, not only on the left lapel, but also upside down, so that, in the bemusement so often caused by such events, I can easily remind myself who I am.

Yours faithfully,
ERIC THACKER,
The Vicarage,
Womersley,
Doncaster,
South Yorkshire,
April 9.

THE ARTS

Cinema

A powerful sense of creeping pollution

Silkwood (15)

Odeon Leicester Square

Greystoke (PG)

Warner Leicester Square

The Golden Seal (PG)

ABC Shaftesbury Avenue;
Classics Oxford Street,
Haymarket

Loose Connections (PG)

Classics Oxford Street,
Haymarket

The American cinema stays faithful to its public in enshrining the communal dreams and nightmares; so we should not be surprised at the resurgence of the related themes of nuclear terror and ecological nature myth. *Silkwood*, which represents Mike Nichols's return to direction, nine years after *The Fortune*, is one of the best to date in the first category. It re-enacts a cause célèbre of 1974, when Karen Silkwood, a worker in the Kerr-McGee plutonium processing plant in Oklahoma, died mysteriously, as she was seeking to publicize the company's careless handling of radioactive materials.

Since the story precludes ordinary dramatic solutions (there can be neither surprise nor solution to the ending), Nichols and his scenarists (Nora Ephron and Alice Arlen) borrow and improve upon the strategies of soap opera and engage the audience in the small daily adventures and sentiments of a rural community, ordinary enough, but conditioned at every move by the neo-feudal demands of the Corporation. Karen's own life is messy, with a divorced common-law husband and kids somewhere in the Texas back-ground. She shares a house with two co-workers (Kurt Russell and Cher) both of whom are casually in love with her. The people at the plant are the same unaccountable mixture of backbiting and comradeship as working colleagues anywhere.

Karen is played by Meryl Streep, who proves what a ranging actress she is. She is transformed into a working girl, gum-chewing, badly dressed, indelicately marked by undereducation and underprivilege. When Karen turns activist it is not the outcome of miraculous political illumination, but simply gutsy spirit and an innate instinct for fairness.

The special force of the film is the

sense of creeping pollution that Nichols and the writers create, with the collaboration of a fine cinematographer, Miroslav Ondricek. The contamination is not confined to the nuclear plant; we are constantly aware of cigarette smoke, junk food, the filth of the oil refineries in Karen's Texas home. The romantic Oklahoma skyline which opens the film seems to represent our last forlorn glimpse of a world that was.

Tarzan has been the most potent and profitable nature myth since 1912. *Greystoke: The Legend of Tarzan, Lord of the Apes* is adapted by Michael Austin and "P. H. Vazak" (Robert Towne, who preferred a pseudonym on the credits) from Edgar Rice Burroughs's first Tarzan novel, which relates how the grandson and heir of Lord Greystoke is brought up by apes in the African jungle after his parents have perished there. Tarzan is brought back to claim his inheritance, but, after a good look around aristocratic early-century Britain, decides he prefers to return to the jungle - a wise decision since it made possible 25 further Tarzan novels.

This is Hugh Hudson's second film, following his auspicious debut with *Chariots of Fire*. In the later stages of production there were much-publicized problems over reducing Hudson's version to manageable length. The most evident symptoms of drastic cutting are a bewilderingly inconsequential middle episode and the appearance on the credit titles of characters and actors who make only fleeting and mysterious appearances.

There appear, too, vestigial remains of some more explicit philosophical or political intent: old Lord Greystoke, having been presented as a lovable aristocratic buffoon, becomes enigmatically sinister as he reveals to his grandson that the wall that surrounds the great estate is "to keep Them out and Us in" and exhorts him to keep hold of their possessions "whatever you have to do".

Moments like this keep us guessing in an otherwise uncomplicated adventure story, uncomfortably broken into two barely connected halves, and with more action than real progression. The major assets of the film are the visual splendours of the Cameroonian forests and of Floors Castle, whose exuberance no film-maker has previously had the imagination to exploit. This, too, was the last performance of Ralph Richardson, who enriches the film with his marvellous ease both in comedy and pathos. The newest Tarzan is Christopher Lambert, a Duke of Edinburgh look-alike of French origin; the amiable Apes are remarkable costume creations by Rick Baker.

The Golden Seal is an ecology fable, attractive for its directness and



Gutsy spirit: Meryl Streep in *Silkwood*

simplicity, of epic style. Set in the Aleutian Islands, it relates how a small boy finds a golden seal - since the dawn of time a symbol for the Aleuts of the harmony of man and nature. In our times only the child understands enough to defend the animal from slaughter by a corrupted society, of which his own father and the Aleuts themselves are part. Directed, with a real feeling for the spectacle of nature, by Frank Zúñiga (who made *Adventures of the Wilderness Family, Part II*), the acting is matched to the uncomplicated and unembarrassed sentiment. The film is a rarity indeed - the ideal family film for the holiday period.

Loose Connections is the kind of small-scale British production that can be fatally overshadowed in a week of imported imports - pictures like *Greystoke* whose budgets may be fifty times greater. It would be a pity in this case, first because the film is at least as attractive and enjoyable as most blockbusters, but also because it represents a production initiative by the National Film Finance Corporation

- Britain's one lifeline of official support for cinema - in collaboration with the debuting Virgin Films.

Directed by Richard Eyre from a brisk, ironic script by Maggie Brooks, a National Film School graduate, it is a rarity: a comic "road" film. Instead of mooning about in search of their souls, this odd couple (Stephen Rea, Lindsay Duncan) motoring through Germany bicker their way through successive catastrophes and fleeting affections. She is a no-nonsense feminist on her way to a women's conference; he is a mendacious, chauvinist slob aiming to support Liverpool in Munich.

It is light-hearted, and does not aspire to facile judgments or conclusions about the battle of the sexes. Some of the comedy, both verbal and visual, falls short of the mark: the polish on comedy costs money after all. Invariably though the day is saved by Rea, a lovely character comic with the melancholy look of an elderly spaniel who has left his glazes at home.

David Robinson

Royal Ballet
Covent Garden

It has taken the Royal Ballet a long time to discover Jiri Kylian's choreography, although he was a graduate student at its school. Fourteen years after his first ballet was shown in London, and trailing in the wake of companies all over the world (including Kylian's own Netherlands Dance Theatre), Covent Garden on Wednesday presented the ballet he made under the impact of John Cranko's death, *Return to the Strange Land*.

It is set for only six dancers, never more than three on stage at once, to piano music by Kylian's compatriot Janáček. Stylistically, it follows the two preferences that inform all Kylian's choreography: no dances without meaning, but no stories in dance. Emotions are implied in the dances as clearly and allusively as in the score, which is a composite of the two-movement 1.10.1905 and single sections from two cycles, *The Overgrown Path* and *In the Mist*.

The opening pas de trois, for instance, has Wayne Eagling and Stephen Sheriff hurrying round the stage, then in turn falling to complete their journey rolling fast while Alessandra Ferri leaps over them. It is the kind of image (flight, confrontation, collapse) that often occurs in ballets about death, but transformed here from the usual mime to vivid, exciting dance.

Many other images stick firm in the memory, among them Ferri (ending a duet with Eagling) supported in space by curling herself around the upraised legs of her supine partner. Or the way Bryony Brind hangs away from Julian Hosking in their duet, and how her body stretches and contracts as she lies across Hosking's and Jay Jolley's shoulders to start the final section.

But the flow of Kylian's invention makes all these and many other striking moments part of a continuous process of implication that takes its shape from the music. Kylian's own design for the work is austere but entirely adequate: brown tights for the first trio, blue for

Dance
Imagery shaped out of music



Fluent and wistful: Antoinette Sibley (top) and David Wall in *Fleeting Figures*

the second, a row of autumn leaves forming a low barrier across the back of the stage. With Jennifer Tipton's marvelously sympathetic lighting, the space looks bigger than usual but the choreography, even with so few dancers, makes full use of it.

The evening's other new production, by contrast, looks amazingly cluttered. *Fleeting Figures* is the first big-scale creation for the Royal Ballet by Derek Deane, one of their principal dancers; it comes after several party pieces for the Royal Ballet's dancers and others, and some ballets abroad, mainly for the National Ballet of Zimbabwe. Deane has a flair for making duets which always look effective, displaying the dancers' skills with smooth grace, although in retrospect it is not always easy to distinguish one from another. In the new work he again composes very largely for couples, although the patterns are often doubled, quadrupled, or multiplied by five, eight or ten to utilize a larger cast.

The score he has chosen is by another Czech composer: the pretty, graceful and innocuous *Serenade* for Strings by Josef Suk. To it, Deane has made graceful, innocuous and pretty dances. They are performed against an innocuous, pretty and graceful background by Mathilde Sandberg: a sort of brown, vortical landscape (where did that influence creep in?) which for one movement changes to a pattern of what might be overhead girder.

This is not a work that is going to start new trends or cause a great stir, but it achieves very competently what it sets out to do, within the limits of Suk's pleasant but understandably unfamiliar music (it is perhaps significant that two of the four movements carry the marking "non troppo").

The cast is led by Antoinette Sibley and David Wall, gracefully fluent and wistful in the Adagio, with Jay Jolley partnering young Maria Almeida as the other featured couple who take the first Allegro. Almeida, standing in for the injured Lesley Collier, holds her own ably against this strong competition. The rest of the cast comprises four tall couples seen mostly with Sibley and Wall, and four shorter couples to support the other pair, with everyone joining in the outer movements.

The programme opened with a revival of *Agon*. The Royal Ballet has had several of Balanchine's ballets, including this one, in its repertoire from time to time, but has not maintained a regular performing tradition of them and anyway has generally seemed more comfortable in his earlier works. Consequently, in spite of John Taras's presence to stage it, the production is only intermittently gripping. Bryony Brind is the most convincing of the soloists and Jonathan Cope looks so good in the ensemble that he deserves to be more prominently cast.

Like the company's other new productions this season, the programme uses only a fraction of the company: a total of just 31 dancers all evening. A bit worrying, that.

John Percival

Concert

Philharmonia/Rattle
Festival Hall/Radio 3

One of many fascinating things to emerge from the recently published correspondence between Schoenberg and Kandinsky (Faber) is the musician's distrust of "construction". What he sought was rather "the rendering of an inner vision", the creation not of artistic solutions but of new puzzles, unmediated by the reasoning mind.

But of course the distinction he proposes, between intellect and instinct, can never be absolute, and as Simon Rattle reminded us on Wednesday in a frighteningly clear projection of the *Five Orchestral Pieces*, Op.16, the more closely instinctive emotion is pursued, the more completely intellectual form unveils itself.

Nothing in Schoenberg's output seems more "the rendering of an inner vision" than this opus: the middle piece, though he described it as an impression of morning light on a lake, has

exactly the unblinking gaze, sorrowfully appealing yet also, acutely challenging, of the "visions" he sought at this time to put on canvas, several of which are reproduced in the Faber volume. When working with sound, however, he was too much the musician to be able to avoid creating networks of motive relation and symmetry, which stood out glistening in Wednesday's performance.

The shape of the first movement, for instance, revealed itself through Mr Rattle's quick grasp of the fragments of melody that suddenly appear for half a dozen notes and then are gone, his treatment of the ostinatos as the nasty inhuman objects they surely should be, and his penetration of the often complex textures. This was that rare thing, a Schoenberg performance without mud, and without a Boulezian straight-jacketed beat. No wonder a capacity audience was moved to loud applause.

I hope all those who came for the Schoenberg stayed on for the Mahler in the second half, for Mr Rattle went on to give an

overwhelming performance of the "Resurrection" Symphony. Again it was a matter of expressive impulse creating its own stark structure, if sometimes at the expense of the composer's tempo gradations. The first movement was quick, but seemed the quicker for Mr Rattle's sharp pointing of it as a chain of ever larger and more comprehensive introductions to the main business of the work, with a quite horrendous hammering at the great nihilistic climax (has music ever been made blacker than in these bars?).

The ending was in the same measure exultant, benefiting from strong and generous if wobbly singing from Florence Quivar in "Ulrich" as well as from Alison Hargan's spiritualized purity and the Philharmonia Chorus's ringing power. At the end of a taxing evening it was probably inevitable that there should be a few orchestral blemishes. And we perhaps needed them to remind us we were not really in heaven.

Paul Griffiths

Theatre

Camille

Other Place, Stratford

Compared with her original piece on *Piaf*, Pam Gems's adaptation of *La Dame aux Camélias* may sound like a pot-boiler, but the two amounts to companion studies of destitute women who battled their way into money and fame. In a sense, *Camille* is the more remarkable achievement, as it offers a no less hard-headed examination of sexual economics while simultaneously reclaiming the cliché of the tart with a heart of gold.

Like much of Ms Gems's work, it presents its argument through contradiction and surprise. The first sight we get of the heroine consists of a brutally alienating contrast between her public and private life: sweeping into an elegant clients' party and casting a spell of fastidious sweetness over the enraptured Armand, and then immediately transformed into a demon in *deshabillé*, hurling abuse at a thieving servant and clawing her down to the floor. Neither scene gives you the luxury of judging her: only of registering the direct connection between the delicate life she enjoys and the means by which she maintains it.

A more subtle and painful example comes a few scenes later where she interrupts a game with her little boy to receive a wealthy lover. The stage empties and darkens, the ancient lover totters on, and she



Frances Barber, radiating emotional generosity

at once slips into his favourite bedroom game of treating him as a little boy who has to be punished. *Camille* does not sustain this method once the Armand affair has got into its stride; but by then you have learnt the rules of her life and had time to grow fond of her little court and even some of its clients, particularly Charles Millam's gauche young Swede with his seven castles and besotted attachment to the dimmest of the girls. When *Camille* is briefly left alone to rustle round her gilded salon and burst into ecstatic comment on "my lovely things", she has your sympathy in spite of the social ostracism, disease and knitting needles in the background.

Disce is the one fictional

element in Dumas's scheme which Ms Gems has failed to translate into economic fact. In the long bedroom scene *Camille* sensibly blocks every attempt Armand makes to remove her from her business life until she goes into a paroxysm of coughing and weakly agrees to quit Paris for the virtuous pastoral retreat.

In that sense, the piece remains the tubercular romance it always was rather than a tragedy. But, given the quality of Ron Daniels's production, you hardly notice the difference. The deadly eroticism of Liszt's B minor Sonata (Liszt being one of the original Marie Duplessis's lovers) adds a powerful sense of romantic agony.

Nicholas Farrell's Armand belongs entirely to that world: a man obsessed by the attachment as the only escape from his personal ugliness, clamping his eyes on her like maniacs, and seeking to build the relationship into one of comradeship transcending the sexual conventions of the period.

Given such a *Camille* as Frances Barber you can fully credit his obsession. What she presents is the portrait of a beautifully skilled courtesan discarding everything she has learnt in favour of an alternative way of life. She radiates emotional generosity, as naturally as breathing, but her original self is there until the end: discarded and sobbing on the floor, but arising to receive a fat Russian prince and automatically picking up the old routine while in the act of dying.

Irving Wardle

Television

Sinful stability

Some South Africans call it "sin city". Mr Sol Kerzner, prime mover in its establishment, prefers his "Sun City" for this super-Burton's established with imported soil on the volcanic scrubland in the South African homeland, Bophuthatswana. BBC2's *Forty Minutes* gave us a tour last night.

South Africa forbids gambling, so 50,000 people flock to Sun City weekly to let down their hair and their principles, for not only do Blacks and Whites lose money together but there are no "Whites Only" signs. Apartheid is illegal, some compensation for a puppet state, unrecognized by the world, whose 2,500,000 inhabitants have no passports and are economically dependent on their forbidding southern parent.

But, said Mr Kerzner, it was a stable country, otherwise millions could not have been invested. Bophuthatswana received 50 per cent of the profit. He thought his operation was of international significance. An African chief indicated that Mr Kerzner's creation showed Africans some things they might well do without. International stage and golf stars go there to perform and, perhaps, leave some of their fees on the table. Happy Mr Kerzner. A good, bizarre little programme from the producer Ann Paul.

Channel 4's *Survive* is a timely new series if only because it demonstrates how much worse things could be. We saw Canadian Air Force personnel learning that technology is not enough when you are stranded in the Arctic, a man and his three children who survived shipwreck in Alaska's worst weather, and a pilot, Marten Harwell, who, ate human flesh to survive when his plane crashed. He was subsequently devoured by the media. If there were a next time, he thought he would just stretch out and die. Good, tough, unusual stuff from the director Nick Down, who also photographed it.

Dennis Hackett

Only time could change the cruelty of tradition... only their Love could survive...



PREMIERE CINEMATHEQUE TEL 734 5414
The West End's New Cinema for International Films

AWARDED 4 OSCARS
FANNY AND ALEXANDER

INGMAR BERGMAN's crowning film achievement has collected 4 Oscars - Best Foreign Language Film Best Cinematography Best Art Direction Best Costume Design



THE MARKET THEATRE COMPANY JOHANNESBURG PRESENTS

SATURDAY NIGHT AT THE PALACE

The Market Theatre has already established an enviable international reputation. Paul Sibiak's play is a worthy successor to this intrepid output.



SADLER'S WELLS THEATRE
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18-22 APRIL FROM JAPAN
THE NANJO-OKUMURA NOH COMPANY
One of the world's most fascinating and treasured forms of theatre
"Compelling...masterful"
Times & P Supplement

One small ad. that turned into one BIG mistake!
Loose Connections
NOW SHOWING
CLASSIC HAYMARKET 01-238 1527
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FT STOCK INDICES	
GOVERNMENT SECURITIES	82.56 (82.60)
FIXED INTEREST	86.46 (86.43)
INDUSTRIAL ORDINARY	888.5 (888.1)
GOLD MINES	870.70 (862.3)
ORDINARY DIVIDEND YIELD	4.34% (4.38%)
EARNINGS YIELD	8.83% (8.93%)
P.E. RATIO (NET)	12.23 (12.18)
P.E. RATIO (NIL)	11.80 (11.56)

FT - ACTUARIES INDICES	
INDUSTRIAL GROUP	552.01 (520.13)
500 SHARE INDEX	571.09 (568.38)
EARNINGS YIELD	9.62% (9.66%)
DIVIDEND YIELD	4.21% (4.23%)
P.E. RATIO (NET)	12.81 (12.76)
ALL SHARE INDEX	526.56 (524.32)
DIVIDEND YIELD	4.36% (4.39%)

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EURO-\$ DEPOSITS

[illegible]

146	Japan Airlines	95	0.1	0.1
147	Japan Air Lines	95	0.1	0.1
148	Law Deb Corp	143	6.8	4.7
149	Lawrence	143	6.8	4.7
150	Sec 2	94	2.9	2.9
151	De Dir	94	-	-
152	Len Pro Invest	71	7.9	3.7
153	Len Pro Invest	71	7.9	3.7
154	Merchants Trust	98	3.3	4.3
155	Murray	100	6.3	6.1
156	Murray	76	-	-
157	Murray	76	-	-
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\$8	123	Securguard	143	2-7-69
\$8	123	S.W.Resources	65	2-7-69

* Ee dividend, * Ee all, * Foreign dividend, * Chartered
policy, * Insurance payment received, * Price at market,
Dividend and yield exclude a special payment, * S & D Inc.
company, * P-S over-all figures, * Forecasted earnings, *
capital distribution, * E rights, * The corp or stock price
~~No significant price adjusted for late trading.~~ No
significant change.

RECENT ISSUES

Current
Price

Brent Irv 51 Ord (a)	141
Berkman's 1Op Ord USS	187
CPS Computer 2Op Ord (67a)	125
Clarke Rotho Pac Inv 2Op Ord	W
Cambridge Venture 3 Op Ord	20 1/2
Dunham's Electrical 2Op Ord (62a)	17
Dewey Warren Hedges 1Op Ord (a)	115-2 1/2
	125

FINANCE AND INDUSTRY

Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

Midland's California nightmare drags on

Midland Bank's Californian nightmare still seems to be getting more gruesome, rather than dissolving in a new dawn.

Following bad debt provisions, which produced a \$57m (£40m) loss in the last quarter of 1983, the 57 per cent owned Crocker has made another \$147m debt provision for the first quarter of this year, leaving a loss of \$121m (£84). This is partly due to decisions by the new management put in by Midland, and now headed by Mr Frank Cahouet from neighbouring Security Pacific, after taking a hard look at the loan portfolio. Unfortunately, it also reflects a further worsening of the California credit scene, the collapse of a big customer in the energy business and more problems among farming and property customers, that have pushed another \$100m of loans into the "non-performing" category this year.

The problems at Crocker have already dragged down Midland's own consolidated profit to £225m last year, lower than any of the previous three years. In 1981, the £15m of 1979. Dividend prospects have been soured. Worse, perhaps, in a finance industry where to deal is now unthinkable, the combination of Crocker's problems and the Budget deferred tax blows have left Midland the lowest valued of the big four banks at less than £900m and hence with an apparently lower market worth than Charterhouse, J Rothschild plus Hambro, Life, Mr Geoffrey Taylor, Midland's chief executive, was not obviously looking over his shoulder yesterday as he pointed to the group's book asset value of £1.9 billion, although that still includes Crocker at \$52 per share compared with the average purchase price of \$67 and yesterday's market price of only \$25. Both Crocker and Midland itself, he insists, have adequate capital bases. The Budget treatment of deferred tax on earnings and the latest Crocker losses take Midland's capital asset ratio down from 4.6 per cent to something over four per cent, which would still appear relatively healthy.

Mr Cahouet and his team are now clearly taking drastic action, including "reducing our investment in headquarters buildings" and praying no doubt that Argentina will stay in the debt fold to stop another \$185m of loans joining the \$880m out of Crocker's \$16.2 billion loan portfolio which are now "non-performing". This is more than emergency surgery. They are cutting costs and overheads to give Crocker a better profit earning potential than in the past. If, as hoped, bad debt provisions return to a more normal level, Crocker could start showing a profit in some later quarters, though Mr Taylor concedes that Crocker is unlikely to show a profit for 1984 as a whole.

Can Midland, therefore, now afford to sweat it out in California and wait for the good work to show through? That would be sanguine. One question clearly relevant to Midland's boardroom deliberations is whether 57 per cent of Crocker, even with management control, is any longer a happy or healthy position? "You have only to look at Shell's recent activity to answer that question," says Mr Taylor. "Royal Dutch/Shell is trying to buy out the US minority in Shell Oil. Crocker's outside shareholders may no longer be shielded from the bank's problems. The quarterly payment has so far been halved and the Crocker board has said it will review dividend payments have prudently been made".

If the dividend is axed, which would hardly count as oppressing a minority, Midland might find a receptive audience for a take-out bid that would, as the euphemists put it, average out the purchase cost of Crocker and give Midland full control and the flexibility it needs now as never before. It is also inescapably true that Midland itself is vulnerable, in its present low market state, to ambitious predators. The question might be: "Can Midland rely on ex-clear-

ing banker Mr Robin Leigh-Pemberton maintaining the Bank of England principle that major British clearing banks are now immune from takeover?"

Institutional investors welcome Life index

The London International Financial Futures Exchange (Liffe) has produced a promotional video to publicize its new UK Equity Index contract which begins trading on May 3. Pension fund managers already seem to be sold on the idea. Both Mr George Dennis (Post Office) and Mr Tony Smith (British Gas) are there on tape extolling the virtues of a contract which gives investors the opportunity to bet on the future performance of the FT Stock Exchange 100 Index. In more seemingly words they can hedge against ups and downs in the market, be more active in portfolio management, and protect future intended share purchases against an increase in cost.

The size of the contract, £25 for each point of the index, has been designed specifically for institutional investors. As Mr Michael Jenkins, Liffe chief executive points out, if the Exchange had had the small speculator in mind it would have opted for a smaller contract. The tax treatment of futures contracts is still complex and grey enough to deter the British public from seeking to satisfy its insatiable appetite for betting through the new contract. Pension funds are exempt. Life insurance funds mainly pay capital gains. Professional traders and banks pay case 1 income tax and the poor private investor pays case VI income tax. With the end of the investment income surcharge, the tax position of the private investor is not as bad as it was, but it is still a long way from perfect.

Both Liffe and the Stock Exchange with its new index option want to see the tax position clarified. Both would be satisfied if the private investor were brought into case 1, where broadly speaking losses can be offset against gains.

Hard bargaining on non-tariff barriers

If the latest report of the Liberation of Trade in Services Committee (Lotis) is anything to go by, the present drive to break down non-tariff barriers to international trade in services, and particularly financial services, is going to prove a long-running and hard-bargaining saga.

The General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, you may recall, asked for investigations by member governments after one of its more stormy and unhelpful Geneva meetings. After the abolition of exchange controls, easing of restrictions at Lloyd's and, now, the Stock Exchange, Britain is relatively pure in this argument.

One of the worst problems is that the pattern of restrictions is so fluid that any international list will be out of date by the time it is printed. Data flow and transfers are major areas for new barriers to free trade in services. Lotis is therefore proposing that Gatt concentrates first on establishing a standstill, with governments voluntarily notifying existing and any new restrictions, and that discussions be initially confined to public sector obstacles rather than the problems of private cartels and clubs.

The other big stumbling block, especially for Britain is that some of our European Community partners - France, West Germany, Italy - are among the most important obstructors. That means there seems little prospect of Europe showing the way by breaking down barriers to its internal market. Ironically, the Lotis line is that acting through the cumbersome machinery of Gatt, with American muscle, is more likely to put pressure on EEC countries than the other way round.

Banks in talks over \$200m Esal Commodities crisis

By Philip Robinson

Seven banks owed a total \$200m (£139m) by Esal Commodities are preparing to inject a further \$45m into the company as part of a rescue package. Esal Commodities has not traded since January and has its assets frozen by High Court order.

The firm has paid-up capital of just £1m and late last year was having to offer security for loans. The Central Bank of India has a registered charge over a Boeing 707 owned by the company.

None of the original directors are now with the company, which says its troubles started when the Nigerian coup halted payments on imported sugar. Esal is being run by Mr James Coote, an accountant who has been on the London office for

seven weeks and is believed to have been appointed by an associate of an Esal company.

He said yesterday: "It would be premature for me to say anything at the moment. Before Esal I was a director of an engineering company. Negotiations are at a delicate stage and I am advised by everyone to say nothing."

Leading the negotiations is the Punjab National Bank. It is a significant creditor along with the Central Bank of India, Middle East Bank, Union Bank of India, Oriental Credit, and Johnson Matthey Bankers.

Allied Arab Bank, which is owed \$11m, had been holding out against the rescue but has now agreed. For it to be effected, Allied Arab would have to obtain High Court

permission to withdraw the injunctions granted to it which freeze the Esal assets.

Of the \$200m debts, the banks are owed an estimated \$160m and 25 trade creditors - many of them London commodity brokers - are owed a total \$40m. The current package would raise an equivalent sum.

According to banking sources, the plan is to put in a management team to run Esal, obtaining business from those past directors who are no longer in Britain and hope that the undisclosed sum owed by Nigeria will be repaid.

Some collateral for the new cash coming in is said to come from "friends of the company" and other Esal companies. Trade creditors are unsure whether the banks themselves

are fully secured on existing debt. Fresh debt will be mostly unsecured, but the banks may well use the cash to pay off the unsecured creditors and then write off their own exposure.

Esal Commodities was owned by Mr Rajender Singh Sethia. The Times of India describes Mr Sethia's interests as spanning the globe but mainly in commodities in third world countries. In India he owns Jokia tea estate. In Britain he also owns betting shops and 150 racetracks.

WHEELLOCK MARITIME INTERNATIONAL: Net loans for 1983, after tax and minorities, but before extraordinary items, \$HK60.29m (about £3m), against loss of \$HK860,000 last time.

Sharp fall in output but trend is better

By Frances Williams

The output of British industry fell sharply and unexpectedly in February, but the underlying trend suggests continued moderate industrial recovery.

Total production (manufacturing and energy) slipped by 1.6 per cent in February, while manufacturing output alone dropped by 1.9 per cent, according to provisional figures from the Central Statistical Office. Metal and car production, which was hit by strikes, showed a steep decline.

INDUSTRIAL OUTPUT Seasonally adjusted 1980 = 100		
	Production industries	Manu- facturing
1979	107.4	108.4
1980	100.0	100.0
1981	98.3	98.5
1982	98.0	98.7
1983	100.8	98.4
1984 Q1	99.5	94.1
Q2	101.5	96.9
Q3	102.9	97.1
Q4	104.5	98.7
1984 Jan	102.8	96.8
Feb	102.5	96.8
3 month change %	1.5	1.8

Source: CSO

But substantial upward revisions to earlier figures, of about 1 per cent, have lent support to suggestions that the provisional estimates routinely underestimate what is happening to output.

On a three-month comparison, the one preferred by official statisticians, Britain's industrial performance looks a good deal healthier. Total production in the three months to February was 1.5 per cent higher than three months earlier.

Manufacturing output has risen by 1.8 per cent in the latest three months.

The most recent survey by the Confederation of British Industry showed manufacturers more optimistic on output prospects than at any time for eight years.

Data Recording to seek full market listing

By Our City Staff

Data Recording Instrument Company, Europe's largest independent manufacturer and supplier of computer peripherals, VDUs and other systems, and one of the British Technology Group's most successful investments, is to seek a full stock market listing in 1987.

The state-backed BTG, which has invested £27m in DRI since 1980, yesterday paved the way for the flotation by selling a 65 per cent stake in the company to a consortium of City banks led by S.G. Warburg & Co.

The new consortium is paying BTG about £10m for its holding and will inject a further £10m into DRI.

The existing management of DRI stands to own a maximum 15 per cent stake in the business by 1987.

Last year DRI made operating profits of £4.1m on a turnover of £70m. BTG officials expect the business to have a turnover of about £100m by 1987.

SE ends 250 years as a private club

By William Kay and Wayne Lintott

On the day that the Stock Exchange published its draft proposals for radical changes on the future of the stock market, the Department of Trade and Industry yesterday formally announced the end of the Exchange's 251-year life as a private club.

Instead, it will become a statutory body on January 1, 1985, under draft regulations to implement European Community directives establishing a common system for the listing of securities throughout the 10 member-countries.

The Council of the Stock Exchange will be designated as the British authority competent to apply and administer directive requirements. This role is due to be reinforced by legislation on investor protection, which has been earmarked for 1986.

The Stock Exchange Council's own discussion paper outlines the likely shape of the market once fixed commissions are abandoned at the end of next year. This will fulfil the undertaking given to the DTI last autumn, in return for which the Government exempted the

Exchange from the provisions of the Restrictive Practices Act.

The Council formally accepts for the first time that the single capacity jobbing system will have to go. It examines four alternative systems based on the assumption that all member firms will be known as "broker dealers".

Outsiders are to be given a much bigger role than ever before. They will be allowed to own a member firm outright, instead of being confined to a ceiling of 29.9 per cent as at present. But a majority of the directors of member firms must still themselves be members.

New firms are to be admitted through a system of seats or licences, or payments to the Exchange to cover the greater cost of policing the new system.

All executives of member firms will have to be members if they deal or give advice to the public. The directors of limited corporate member firms will be allowed limited liability.

Separate arrangements are being made for the gilt-edged market, which will be dominated by "primary dealers".

Feature, page 19

Campari pulls out of merger talks

By Andrew Cornelius

Plans to reshape Britain's camping and leisure equipment industry by merging the sales and distribution businesses of Campari International, Blacks Camping and Leisure, and Greenfields Leisure have collapsed at a late stage after a decision by Campari to pull out of the talks.

However, Mr Henry Lipton, the chairman of Campari, does not rule out further talks later if satisfactory terms can be agreed. He will give details of takeover approaches for the Campari group in his annual report to shareholders.

The new management team at Blacks Camping and Leisure, which bought 25 Blacks camping shops from the Black & Edgington group last year, is understood to be the driving



First Leisure at premium

Shares in First Leisure Corporation, headed by Lord Delmont (above), achieved a 20p premium when they made their stock market debut yesterday. Offered for sale at 180p, they shot up to 200p before settling for a closing price of 199p.

The new issue attracted about £350m from investors keen to get share in a group whose interests include the Blackpool Tower and holiday parks.

The offer was oversubscribed 32 times.

Greenwell dealership

W. Greenwell yesterday became the latest stockbroker to set up an international dealership under the new Stock Exchange rules which came into force on Monday.

But while most have no stated specialisation, this one is being set up jointly with Gencor Investment Corporation, the South African mining giant, to deal in "natural resource stocks". Mr Gordon Pepper, Greenwell's senior partner, confirmed last night that in practice this would mean gold mining shares.

STOCK EXCHANGES

FT-SE 100 Index: 1117.0 up 6.4
High 1117.8 Low 1109.7
FT Index: 888.6 up 2.5
FT All Share: 526.56 up 10.63
Barrington: 25.015
Datastream USM leaders: 113.93 up 1.05
New York: Dow Jones Average: 1127.62 down 3.55
Tokyo: Nikkei Dow Jones Index: 10,987.15 up 27.71
Hong Kong: Hang Seng Index: 1091.41 up 2.51
Amsterdam: 170.2 up 1.2
Sydney: AO Index: 781.1 up 5.4
Frankfurt: Commerzbank Index: 1019.5 up 1.4
Brussels: General Index: 154.05 up 0.54
Paris: CAC Index: 171.4 down 0.8
Zurich: SBA General Index: 310.40 down 0.50

CURRENCIES

LONDON CLOSE
Sterling \$1.4310 down 1 cent
Index 80.1 unchanged
DM 3.7525 down 0.0075
FF 11.5350 down 0.02
Yen 321 unchanged
Dollar 126.5 up 0.3
DM 2.6180 up 0.0050
NEW YORK LATEST
Sterling \$1.4310
Dollar 126.5185
INTERNATIONAL
ECU 20.594765
SDR 10.739358

INTEREST RATES

Domestic rates:
Bank base rates 8%
Finance houses base rate 9%
Discount market loans week fixed 8%
3 month interbank 8 1/4-8 1/2%
Euro-currency rates:
3 month dollar 10 1/4-10 1/2%
3 month DM 5 1/4-5 1/2%
3 month FF 13 1/4-13 1/2%
US rates:
Bank prime rate 12.00
Fed funds 10 1/4
Treasury long bond 9 1/2-9 3/4%
ECGD Fixed Rate Sterling Export Finance Scheme IV Average reference rate for interest period March 7, 1984 to April 3, 1984 inclusive: 8.976 per cent.

GOLD

London fixed (per ounce):
am \$382.10 pm \$381.90
close \$378.50-\$379 (\$264.25-\$264.75)
New York (latest): \$379.10
Kruggerand (per coin): \$388.50-\$391 (\$272-273)
Sovereigns (new): \$86.50-\$89.50 (\$61.75-\$62.50)
*Excludes VAT

NEW IN BRIEF

Bae wins jets order

Ansett Transport Industries of Australia has ordered two British Aerospace 146 Regional jet airliners as part of a £28m (\$40m) re-equipment programme. The contract includes options for six more aircraft.

MORGAN CRUCIBLE COMPANY, the international industrial components and materials group, had pretax profits of £9.8m in 1983 up from £4.7m. Turnover increased from £152.5m to £160.3m. The final dividend of 4p makes 7.5p for the year, the same as last time.

AUSTIN REED GROUP, the men and womenswear chain, has confirmed that it has passed through its sticky trading patch of two years ago with a second set of record results. Profits increased from £3.3m to £4m in 1983-84.

PORTALS REPORT record 1983 results with earnings per share rising by 21 per cent. Sales were ahead by 14 per cent for the 12 months to December 31, at £179m, while pretax profits rose 12 per cent to £10.0m. The proposed final dividend of 11p (9.75p) makes a 1983 total of 17.25p (15.3p).

Barter fears discounted

By Our Economics Correspondent

Barter between countries, more formally known as "countertrading", represents at most 8 per cent of world trade in goods and poses a smaller threat to the trading system than has been suggested, according to an unpublished study from the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (Gatt).

Some private estimates have put the proportion of countertrading - in which a country buys goods on condition that the seller buys its own goods in exchange - as high as 40 per cent.

The study says that evidence suggests that countertrading has grown considerably

Early agreement on key objectives unlikely

New Argentine debt setbacks

From Peter Wilson-Smith, Washington

There is little chance of Argentina signing a new letter of intent with the International Monetary Fund before the end of this month and it will be two months at the very earliest before a programme could be approved by the board, according to monetary sources in Washington.

Argentina and IMF are still at loggerheads over how to implement key objectives such as reducing the public sector deficit and the IMF is understood to be concerned at the nation's relaxed approach to negotiations.

Argentina's already strained relations with commercial banks also appear to have worsened after a meeting between Senior Bernardo Grins-

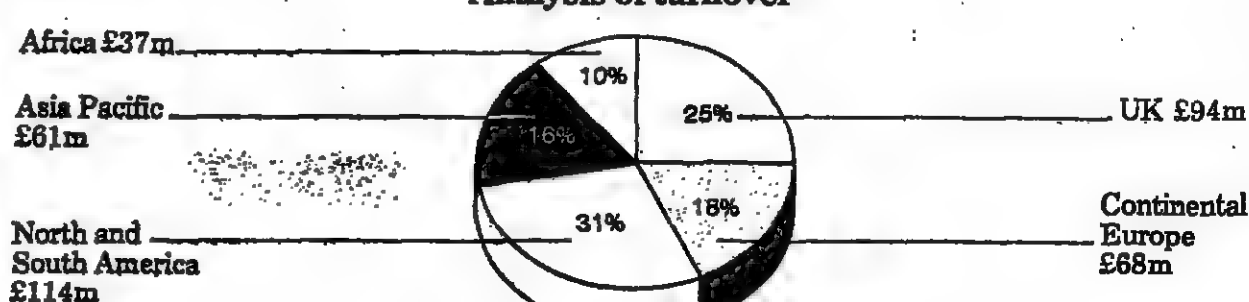
pun, the economy minister, and the bankers advisory group earlier this week. Sr Grinspun is understood to have insisted bankers by saying he wanted to renegotiate better terms on a \$1.5 billion medium term loan which lapsed earlier this year after only \$500m was drawn. The loan was put together with much difficulty, especially for British banks, last year.

Another hurdle is looming for Argentina and the banks when the remaining repayments of a \$1.1 billion bridging loan fall due by April 16. There is no prospect of Argentina completing repayments but with little progress likely by then on agreement with the IMF, some banks may balk at formally extending the repayments date.

APV HOLDINGS

	1983	1982
Turnover	£374m	£339m
Profit before tax	£18.3m	£17.6m
Earnings per share: basic	34.1p	34.4p
diluted	32.0p	30.6p
Ordinary dividends	11.25p	10.5p

Analysis of turnover



Extracts from the statement by the Chairman, Sir Ronald McIntosh KCB

Although there was no marked improvement in the demand for capital equipment, we achieved a modest increase in turnover and pre-tax profit in 1983.

The dividend has been increased for the seventeenth successive year. Our balance sheet has again strengthened; shareholders' funds have increased by £10 million to £114 million and the debt-equity ratio has been reduced to 10 per cent.

We continue to give the highest priority to the development of our technology and to foster innovation throughout the group.

Orders received in 1983 were 11 per cent up on 1982. We entered 1984 with an order book only slightly higher than 12 months previously but the prospects for growth in the major economies of the world seem to be improving and this should bring an increase in the demand for capital goods.

Several of our companies in Europe, the USA and elsewhere produced good results in 1983 and we expect most of them to do well again this year. So far as group profits for 1984 are concerned, much will clearly depend on the strength of the hoped-for recovery in demand for capital goods.

APV — market leaders in advanced process plant for the food, beverage and chemical industries.



APV HOLDINGS PLC

APV House, Crawley, West Sussex RH10 1HH.

The AGM will be held on Tuesday 22 May 1984 at APV House, Crawley.

Copies of the Report and Accounts will be available after Monday 30 April 1984 from the Secretary. The above figures are extracted from the full historical cost accounts of the group for the year ended 31 December 1983 on which the auditors have given an unqualified opinion. The full accounts will be filed with the Registrar of Companies after the Annual General Meeting.

How De Vere profits up to record £1.8m

By Jonathan Clare

De Vere Hotels and Restaurants, owner of the Mirabelle restaurant, Connaught Rooms, London, has reported a record profit of £1.8m for the year ended December 31, 1983.

A resurgence of confidence among businessmen has increased business travel, even in areas like the West Midlands which helped De Vere to increase its profits from £1m to £1.8m last year. Mr. Leslie Jackson, the deputy chairman, said: "The Midlands' hotels have been very good. The one in Coventry has been trading at record levels."

More than half the shares are in the hands of the chairman, Mr. Leopold Mullen. Last December he agreed to sell out to a Mr. Geoffrey Holland at 340p per share with a general offer to all shareholders to follow at the same price. But Mr. Holland's off-the-shelf company, Selfpost, failed to come up with the necessary financial assurances and the deal fell through. However, Mr. Mullen's known willingness to sell his stake has continued to underpin the share price, which rose 3p to 313p on the results, in expectation of another bid.

The Connaught Rooms, the London & banqueting suite, is still losing money but is now close to break-even.

The Mirabelle, a big favourite with US tourists attracted to Britain by favourable exchange rates, is profitable and now benefits from last year's £300,000 refurbishment.

The current year has started well with occupancy at much-improved levels and tariffs are no longer under the competitive pressure seen two years ago. The total dividend has been maintained at 6p.

The Stock Exchange discussion paper on the future of the stock market, published yesterday, is a technical and at times abstruse document. But the cool and carefully worded prose fails to disguise the push and pull of intensely conflicting pressures which have been taking place behind the scenes in the past few months.

It was, after all, only last summer that Mr. Cecil Parkinson, then Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, was insisting that the Stock Exchange must preserve the 75-year-old system of single-capacity trading, whereby jobbers and brokers must stick strictly to their lists.

Now, however, the Stock Exchange Council states unequivocally: "Single-capacity cannot last," while conceding that many institutional investors, stockbrokers serving private investors and the smaller firms of equity jobbers all favour the old system in varying degrees.

On nothing it seems, does everyone agree. But time is pressing. The "big bang" is set to happen by the end of next year, and the computer software designers reckon it will take them 18 months to put a tolerably bug-free operation in place.

Hovering in the background, of course, is Mr. Norman Tebbit, Mr. Parkinson's successor. Through his energetic Under-Secretary of State, Mr. Alex Fletcher, he is pressing the City to open itself up to international competition and to be more accountable to its customers.

Their main agent in the City is Mr. Robin Leigh-Pemberton, the Governor of the Bank of England. He spent the last month when he gave a speech at Edinburgh University, which, coincidentally, is Mr. Fletcher's constituency.

WALL STREET

US tax increase voted

Washington (AFP) - The US House of Representatives has approved a three-year tax increase on alcohol, cigarettes, telephones and businesses that would earn the government \$49 billion (£34 billion) in its campaign to cut the country's \$200 billion federal deficit.

The measure was adopted by a vote of 318 to 97.

The US Senate is also debating a series of similar proposals that would increase federal revenues by \$48m. The Senate package would exclude taxes on cigarettes.

The moves are part of a joint effort by Congress and the Administration to reduce the burgeoning federal deficit.

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AP 1

Petranol chief buys 20% property investor stake

The fight for Brockhouse has virtually doubled the initial price offered for the company. From a Caparo offer of all shares with a £5m capital injection, the company is now valued at almost £11m.

the good and this gives us ground for cautious optimism about the group's outcome for 1984."

888.6 helped by the opening rally on Wall Street. Among leaders Distillers advanced another 4p to 283p -

499p. Lloyds 8p to 622p, while Midland lost 13p to 369p after the disappointing figures from its US subsidiary Crocker.

gains). The number of British and Irish stocks traded amounted to 174.7 million. Gilt bargains totalled 3,072.

cent drop for March. The net effect was a rates structure that showed little change at the end of the day.

lubricant, using just water plus additives, now being produced and marketed with a great deal \$4 billion (£2.7 billion), leading inevitably to cutbacks and the husbanding of resources. But

1934-4		1934-5	1934-6	1934-7	1934-8	1934-9	1934-10	1934-11	1934-12	1935-1	1935-2	1935-3	1935-4	1935-5	1935-6	1935-7	1935-8	1935-9	1935-10	1935-11	1935-12	1936-1	1936-2	1936-3	1936-4	1936-5	1936-6	1936-7	1936-8	1936-9	1936-10	1936-11	1936-12	1937-1	1937-2	1937-3	1937-4	1937-5	1937-6	1937-7	1937-8	1937-9	1937-10	1937-11	1937-12	1938-1	1938-2	1938-3	1938-4	1938-5	1938-6	1938-7	1938-8	1938-9	1938-10	1938-11	1938-12	1939-1	1939-2	1939-3	1939-4	1939-5	1939-6	1939-7	1939-8	1939-9	1939-10	1939-11	1939-12	1940-1	1940-2	1940-3	1940-4	1940-5	1940-6	1940-7	1940-8	1940-9	1940-10	1940-11	1940-12	1941-1	1941-2	1941-3	1941-4	1941-5	1941-6	1941-7	1941-8	1941-9	1941-10	1941-11	1941-12	1942-1	1942-2	1942-3	1942-4	1942-5	1942-6	1942-7	1942-8	1942-9	1942-10	1942-11	1942-12	1943-1	1943-2	1943-3	1943-4	1943-5	1943-6	1943-7	1943-8	1943-9	1943-10	1943-11	1943-12	1944-1	1944-2	1944-3	1944-4	1944-5	1944-6	1944-7	1944-8	1944-9	1944-10	1944-11	1944-12	1945-1	1945-2	1945-3	1945-4	1945-5	1945-6	1945-7	1945-8	1945-9	1945-10	1945-11	1945-12	1946-1	1946-2	1946-3	1946-4	1946-5	1946-6	1946-7	1946-8	1946-9	1946-10	1946-11	1946-12	1947-1	1947-2	1947-3	1947-4	1947-5	1947-6	1947-7	1947-8	1947-9	1947-10	1947-11	1947-12	1948-1	1948-2	1948-3	1948-4	1948-5	1948-6	1948-7	1948-8	1948-9	1948-10	1948-11	1948-12	1949-1	1949-2	1949-3	1949-4	1949-5	1949-6	1949-7	1949-8	1949-9	1949-10	1949-11	1949-12	1950-1	1950-2	1950-3	1950-4	1950-5	1950-6	1950-7	1950-8	1950-9	1950-10	1950-11	1950-12	1951-1	1951-2	1951-3	1951-4	1951-5	1951-6	1951-7	1951-8	1951-9	1951-10	1951-11	1951-12	1952-1	1952-2	1952-3	1952-4	1952-5	1952-6	1952-7	1952-8	1952-9	1952-10	1952-11	1952-12	1953-1	1953-2	1953-3	1953-4	1953-5	1953-6	1953-7	1953-8	1953-9	1953-10	1953-11	1953-12	1954-1	1954-2	1954-3	1954-4	1954-5	1954-6	1954-7	1954-8	1954-9	1954-10	1954-11	1954-12	1955-1	1955-2	1955-3	1955-4	1955-5	1955-6	1955-7	1955-8	1955-9	1955-10	1955-11	1955-12	1956-1	1956-2	1956-3	1956-4	1956-5	1956-6	1956-7	1956-8	1956-9	1956-10	1956-11	1956-12	1957-1	1957-2	1957-3	1957-4	1957-5	1957-6	1957-7	1957-8	1957-9	1957-10	1957-11	1957-12	1958-1	1958-2	1958-3	1958-4	1958-5	1958-6	1958-7	1958-8	1958-9	1958-10	1958-11	1958-12	1959-1	1959-2	1959-3	1959-4	1959-5	1959-6	1959-7	1959-8	1959-9	1959-10	1959-11	1959-12	1960-1	1960-2	1960-3	1960-4	1960-5	1960-6	1960-7	1960-8	1960-9	1960-10	1960-11	1960-12	1961-1	1961-2	1961-3	1961-4	1961-5	1961-6	1961-7	1961-8	1961-9	1961-10	1961-11	1961-12	1962-1	1962-2	1962-3	1962-4	1962-5	1962-6	1962-7	1962-8	1962-9	1962-10	1962-11	1962-12	1963-1	1963-2	1963-3	1963-4	1963-5	1963-6	1963-7	1963-8	1963-9	1963-10	1963-11	1963-12	1964-1	1964-2	1964-3	1964-4	1964-5	1964-6	1964-7	1964-8	1964-9	1964-10	1964-11	1964-12	1965-1	1965-2	1965-3	1965-4	1965-5	1965-6	1965-7	1965-8	1965-9	1965-10	1965-11	1965-12	1966-1	1966-2	1966-3	1966-4	1966-5	1966-6	1966-7	1966-8	1966-9	1966-10	1966-11	1966-12	1967-1	1967-2	1967-3	1967-4	1967-5	1967-6	1967-7	1967-8	1967-9	1967-10	1967-11	1967-12	1968-1	1968-2	1968-3	1968-4	1968-5	1968-6	1968-7	1968-8	1968-9	1968-10	1968-11	1968-12	1969-1	1969-2	1969-3	1969-4	1969-5	1969-6	1969-7	1969-8	1969-9	1969-10	1969-11	1969-12	1970-1	1970-2	1970-3	1970-4	1970-5	1970-6	1970-7	1970-8	1970-9	1970-10	1970-11	1970-12	1971-1	1971-2	1971-3	1971-4	1971-5	1971-6	1971-7	1971-8	1971-9	1971-10	1971-11	1971-12	1972-1	1972-2	1972-3	1972-4	1972-5	1972-6	1972-7	1972-8	1972-9	1972-10	1972-11	1972-12	1973-1	1973-2	1973-3	1973-4	1973-5	1973-6	1973-7	1973-8	1973-9	1973-10	1973-11	1973-12	1974-1	1974-2	1974-3	1974-4	1974-5	1974-6	1974-7	1974-8	1974-9	1974-10	1974-11	1974-12	1975-1	1975-2	1975-3	1975-4	1975-5	1975-6	1975-7	1975-8	1975-9	1975-10	1975-11	1975-12	1976-1	1976-2	1976-3	1976-4	1976-5	1976-6	1976-7	1976-8	1976-9	1976-10	1976-11	1976-12	1977-1	1977-2	1977-3	1977-4	1977-5	1977-6	1977-7	1977-8	1977-9	1977-10	1977-11	1977-12	1978-1	1978-2	1978-3	1978-4	1978-5	1978-6	1978-7	1978-8	1978-9	1978-10	1978-11	1978-12	1979-1	1979-2	1979-3	1979-4	1979-5	1979-6	1979-7	1979-8	1979-9	1979-10	1979-11	1979-12	1980-1	1980-2	1980-3	1980-4	1980-5	1980-6	1980-7	1980-8	1980-9	1980-10	1980-11	1980-12	1981-1	1981-2	1981-3	1981-4	1981-5	1981-6	1981-7	1981-8	1981-9	1981-10	1981-11	1981-12	1982-1	1982-2	1982-3	1982-4	1982-5	1982-6	1982-7	1982-8	1982-9	1982-10	1982-11	1982-12	1983-1	1983-2	1983-3	1983-4	1983-5	1983-6	1983-7	1983-8	1983-9	1983-10	1983-11	1983-12	1984-1	1984-2	1984-3	1984-4	1984-5	1984-6	1984-7	1984-8	1984-9	1984-10	1984-11	1984-12	1985-1	1985-2	1985-3	1985-4	1985-5	1985-6	1985-7	1985-8	1985-9	1985-10	1985-11	1985-12	1986-1	1986-2	1986-3	1986-4	1986-5	1986-6	1986-7	1986-8	1986-9	1986-10	1986-11	1986-12	1987-1	1987-2	1987-3	1987-4	1987-5	1987-6	1987-7	1987-8	1987-9	1987-10	1987-11	1987-12	1988-1	1988-2	1988-3	1988-4	1988-5	1988-6	1988-7	1988-8	1988-9	1988-10	1988-11	1988-12	1989-1	1989-2	1989-3	1989-4	1989-5	1989-6	1989-7	1989-8	1989-9	1989-10	1989-11	1989-12	1990-1	1990-2	1990-3	1990-4	1990-5	1990-6	1990-7	1990-8	1990-9	1990-10	1990-11	1990-12	1991-1	1991-2	1991-3	1991-4	1991-5	1991-6	1991-7	1991-8	1991-9	1991-10	1991-11	1991-12	1992-1	1992-2	1992-3	1992-4	1992-5	1992-6	1992-7	1992-8	1992-9	1992-10	1992-11	1992-12	1993-1	1993-2	1993-3	1993-4	1993-5	1993-6	1993-7	1993-8	1993-9	1993-10	1993-11	1993-12	1994-1	1994-2	1994-3	1994-4	1994-5	1994-6	1994-7	1994-8	1994-9	1994-10	1994-11	1994-12	1995-1	1995-2	1995-3	1995-4	1995-5	1995-6	1995-7	1995-8	1995-9	1995-10	1995-11	1995-12	1996-1	1996-2	1996-3	1996-4	1996-5	1996-6	1996-7	1996-8	1996-9	1996-10	1996-11	1996-12	1997-1	1997-2	1997-3	1997-4	1997-5	1997-6	1997-7	1997-8	1997-9	1997-10	1997-11	1997-12	1998-1	1998-2	1998-3	1998-4	1998-5	1998-6	1998-7	1998-8	1998-9	1998-10	1998-11	1998-12	1999-1	1999-2	1999-3	1999-4	1999-5	1999-6	1999-7	1999-8	1999-9	1999-10	1999-11	1999-12	2000-1	2000-2	2000-3	2000-4	2000-5	2000-6	2000-7	2000-8	2000-9	2000-10	2000-11	2000-12	2001-1	2001-2	2001-3	2001-4	2001-5	2001-6	2001-7	2001-8	2001-9	2001-10	2001-11	2001-12	2002-1	2002-2	2002-3	2002-4	2002-5	2002-6	2002-7	2002-8	2002-9	2002-10	2002-11	2002-12	2003-1	2003-2	2003-3	2003-4	2003-5	2003-6	2003-7	2003-8	2003-9	2003-10	2003-11	2003-12	2004-1	2004-2	2004-3	2004-4	2004-5	2004-6	2004-7	2004-8	2004-9	2004-10	2004-11	2004-12	2005-1	2005-2	2005-3	2005-4	2005-5	2005-6	2005-7	2005-8	2005-9	2005-10	2005-11	2005-12	2006-1	2006-2	2006-3	2006-4	2006-5	2006-6	2006-7	2006-8	2006-9	2006-10	2006-11	2006-12	2007-1	2007-2	2007-3	2007-4	2007-5	2007-6	2007-7	2007-8	2007-9	2007-10	2007-11	2007-12	2008-1	2008-2	2008-3	2008-4	2008-5	2008-6	2008-7	2008-8	2008-9	2008-10	2008-11	2008-12	2009-1	2009-2	2009-3	2009-4	2009-5	2009-6	2009-7	2009-8	2009-9	2009-10	2009-11	2009-12	2010-1	2010-2	2010-3	2010-4	2010-5	2010-6	2010-7	2010-8	2010-9	2010-10	2010-11	2010-12	2011-1	2011-2	2011-3	2011-4	2011-5	2011-6	2011-7	2011-8	2011-9	2011-10	2011-11	2011-12	2012-1	2012-2	2012-3	2012-4	2012-5	2012-6	2012-7	2012-8	2012-9	2012-10	2012-11	2012-12	2013-1	2013-2	2013-3	2013-4	2013-5	2013-6	2013-7	2013-8	2013-9	2013-10	2013-11	2013-12	2014-1	2014-2	2014-3	2014-4	2014-5	2014-6	2014-7	2014-8	2014-9	2014-10	2014-11	2014-12	2015-1	2015-2	2015-3	2015-4	2015-5	2015-6	2015-7	2015-8	2015-9	2015-10	2015-11	2015-12	2016-1	2016-2	2016-3	2016-4	2016-5	2016-6	2016-7	2016-8	2016-9	2016-10	2016-11	2016-12	2017-1	2017-2	2017-3	2017-4	2017-5	2017-6	2017-7	2017-8	2017-9	2017-10	2017-11	2017-12	2018-1	2018-2	2018-3	2018-4	2018-5	2018-6	2018-7	2018-8	2018-9	2018-10	2018-11	2018-12	2019-1	2019-2	2019-3	2019-4	2019-5	2019-6	2019-7	2019-8	2019-9	2019-10	2019-11	2019-12	2020-1	2020-2	2020-3	2020-4	2020-5	2020-6	2020-7	2020-8	2020-9	2020-10	2020-11	2020-12	2021-1	2021-2	2021-3	2021-4	2021-5	2021-6	2021-7	2021-8	2021-9	2021-10	2021-11	2021-12	2022-1	2022-2	2022-3	2022-4	2022-5	2022-6	2022-7	2022-8	2022-9	2022-10	2022-11	2022-12	2023-1	2023-2	2023-3	2023-4	2023-5	2023-6	2023-7	2023-8	2023-9	2023-10	2023-11	2023-12	2024-1	2024-2	2024-3	2024-4	2024-5	2024-6	2024-7	2024-8	2024-9	2024-10	2024-11	2024-12	2025-1	2025-2	2025-3	2025-4	2025-5	2025-6	2025-7	2025-8	2025-9
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Car Buyer's Guide

Motoring by Clifford Webb

Great lead debate set to continue



Jaguar Sovereign HE

Price: £20,995
Engine: V-12 5.343 cc
Performance: maximum speed 150 mph, 0-60 mph 8.1 sec
Official consumption: urban 15 mpg; 56mpg 26.8 mpg, 75 mph 21.5 mpg
Length: 182.8
Insurance: Group 9

BMW 735i

Price: £19,885
Engine: 6-cylinder 3.453 cc
Performance: maximum speed 131 mph, 0-60 mph 9.4 sec
Official consumption: urban 17.6 mpg; 58 mph 35.7 mpg, 75 mph 30.1 mpg
Length: 159.7
Insurance: Group 9

LANCIA LONDON CENTRE

83 DELTA 1300, Black, ref/cass 9,500 miles	£3,850
83 DELTA 1500, White, ref/cass 9,000 miles	£3,950
83 (A) DELTA 1500 Auto, Met. Brown, ref/cass 7,000 miles	£4,250
83 PRISMA 1500, Met. Beige, ref/cass 8,000 miles	£4,750
83 PRISMA 1600, Met. Beige, S/R ref/cass 12,000 miles	£5,250
83 (A) TREVI 1600, Met. Beige, ref/cass 10,000 miles	£4,450
83 TREVI 2000 Auto, Brown, S/R ref/cass 12,000 miles	£4,950
83 (A) HPE 2000 V6, Met. Grey, ref/cass	£6,995
83 GAMMA SALOMI E Auto, Met. Blue, ref/cass 11,000 miles	£5,250
83 GAMMA COUPE E Auto, Met. Beige, ref/cass 14,000 miles	£7,950

Lancia Diplomatic, Export and Fleet Sales Centre,
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NEW AND USED LANCIA

A REJECTION from the 1983-84 LANCIA...
LANCIA AT R ROWELL, Lancia Delta 1500, 1600, 2000, 2500, 3000, 3500, 4000, 4500, 5000, 5500, 6000, 6500, 7000, 7500, 8000, 8500, 9000, 9500, 10000, 10500, 11000, 11500, 12000, 12500, 13000, 13500, 14000, 14500, 15000, 15500, 16000, 16500, 17000, 17500, 18000, 18500, 19000, 19500, 20000, 20500, 21000, 21500, 22000, 22500, 23000, 23500, 24000, 24500, 25000, 25500, 26000, 26500, 27000, 27500, 28000, 28500, 29000, 29500, 30000, 30500, 31000, 31500, 32000, 32500, 33000, 33500, 34000, 34500, 35000, 35500, 36000, 36500, 37000, 37500, 38000, 38500, 39000, 39500, 40000, 40500, 41000, 41500, 42000, 42500, 43000, 43500, 44000, 44500, 45000, 45500, 46000, 46500, 47000, 47500, 48000, 48500, 49000, 49500, 50000, 50500, 51000, 51500, 52000, 52500, 53000, 53500, 54000, 54500, 55000, 55500, 56000, 56500, 57000, 57500, 58000, 58500, 59000, 59500, 60000, 60500, 61000, 61500, 62000, 62500, 63000, 63500, 64000, 64500, 65000, 65500, 66000, 66500, 67000, 67500, 68000, 68500, 69000, 69500, 70000, 70500, 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6995

Today's television and radio programmes

Summaries by Peter Dear and Peter Davalle

BBC 1

6.00 Cee-fax AM. News headlines, weather, traffic and sports bulletins. Also available to viewers with television sets without the teletext facility.

6.30 Breakfast. Time with Selma Scott and Mike Smith. News from Debbie Rex at 6.45, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00 and 8.30 with headlines on the quarter hour; sport at 6.40 and 7.40; regional news, weather and traffic at 6.45, 7.15, 7.45 and 8.15; television preview at 8.15; the morning newspapers reviewed at 7.18 and 8.18; gardening hints between 7.30 and 7.45; pop music news between 7.45 and 8.00; horoscopes at 8.33; food and cooking tips between 8.30 and 9.00.

TV-am

6.25 Good Morning Britain presented by Anne Diamond and Mike Morris. News from Gordon Honeycombe at 6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30 and 9.00; sport at 6.35 and 7.35; fishing tips at 6.45; the day's anniversaries at 7.05 and 8.05; exercises at 8.55 and 9.15; a guest in the Spotlight at 7.30; Chris Tarrant's post bag at 7.50; Suzie Quatro's Star Turn at 8.10; Jimmy Greaves's television highlights at 8.15.

ITV/LONDON

9.25 Thames news headlines followed by Sesame Street, 10.25 The Little Rascals in Fishy Tales, 10.35 Broken. Pat's marriage seems to have solved many problems. 11.35 Sport Billy (r).

12.00 Alfie Adams is in trouble with his father. 12.10 Rainbow Learning with puppets (Oracle) takes place at 12.10. 12.30 On the Market. Magazine programme about eating habits.

1.00 News. 1.20 Thames news. 1.30 About Britain with veteran artist, Edward Bawden, in Scotland. 2.00 Judi Dench show hostess Judi Dench has her guests Kenneth Williams, Nina Miskow and Van Buren. 2.30 Falcon Crest. Julia goes to prison but Angus tries to get the sentence commuted. 3.30 Sensa and Daughters. Careless words threaten relationships in the Palmer household.

4.00 Rainbow. A repeat of the programme shown at 12.10. 4.20 Aubrey. Comic adventures of an eccentric inventor (r). 4.25 Em's World. Rod Hull tries, once again, to control his erratic pet. 4.50 The Fantastic Adventures of Mr. Ross. 5.15 The Young Doctors. Dr Shaw has some trouble from the lady known as "Bubbles".

5.45 News. 6.00 The 5 O'Clock Show, presented by Michael Aspel, takes a look at the lighter side of London life. 7.00 The Zodiac Game. Contestants and celebrities, Frank Carson, Derek Griffiths, Rosa Marie and Sheila Steafel, in a fast moving contest of predictions. Tom O'Connor is the host.

7.30 Handcastle and McCormick. The retired judge is left a thoroughbred racehorse in the will of an ex-con. But his dreams of racing glory are threatened by a property owner with a cash-for-questions problem who is out to fix a race.

8.30 Film: Sky Riders (1975) starring James Coburn, Susan York and Robert Culp. Adventure story about the kidnapped wife of a rich American businessman who is hidden away with her two children on a mountain-top monastery in Greece. Directed by Douglas Hickox (Oracle titles page 170).

10.00 News. 10.30 The Skag Kids. A disturbing Londoner's nightmare about the growth of heroin addiction in Southwark. The interviews with local young people and their parents paint a picture of a community under siege.

11.30 Boom Buddies. American comedy series about a man dressed in drag. 12.00 South of Watford. Ben Elton casts a jaundiced eye over Londoners' life-style and entertainment.

12.30 Bizarre. Unusual comedy series starring John Byner. 1.00 Dragonet. Jo Friday, the Los Angeles policeman, solves another vintage crime by following by Night Thrasher from Norman St. John-Stevens.

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BBC 2

6.05 Open University: Maths Methods: Linear Programming. 6.30 Psychology: Computer Program "Poppy". 6.55 Invention is Not Enough. 7.20 A Conflict Brought to Light. 7.45 Fractional Distillation. Ends at 8.10.

CHANNEL 4

5.00 Wayne and Shuster. The two Canadians discuss the week's murder on the Supermarket.

5.30 The Tube. Rock music magazine programme presented by Jodie Holland and Leslie Ash. Among the guests are north-east band The Kase Gang, Spear of Destiny and the outrageous Grandmaster Flash. Comedian Mark McManus continues to not be in the states.

7.00 Channel Four News. 7.30 Right to Reply. LWT's controller of Features and Current Affairs, Barry Cox, and researcher Jean-Claude Bragard, confront clergyman and lay members of the public hostile to the programme, Jesus - the Evidence.

8.00 A Week in Politics presented by Peter Jay. Two topics tonight: the first is the gauging of Protestant opinion in Northern Ireland as a background to an item on the new Ireland Forum; the second subject is the campaign being waged to save the Metropolitan boroughs and the Greater London Council.

8.40 What the Papers Say. Melanie Phillips of The Guardian reviews the written word that has appeared this week from Fleet Street and beyond.

9.00 Agency. Comedy series about an agent who has been left behind by his wife. The first episode is about a woman who is left behind by her husband. The second episode is about a woman who is left behind by her husband.

9.30 The World's Worst. A documentary about India's best known centre for the performing arts. Founded nearly 50 years ago, the school attracts students from around the world. One of them, 22-year-old Valli Subbiah from Barbet in north London, has just completed six years training in the classical Indian dance.

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Valli Subbiah, The World About Us (BBC 2, 7.45 pm)

Boom and slump: slump and boom; boom and slump. The rhythm of alternating prosperity and recession beats like an amplified pulse through The Shipbuilders (BBC 2, 9.25 pm) which launches BBC Television's eleven-part series. Of all the statistics that chart the up-and-down progress of Britain's shipyards across the decades, there are none more sobering than those showing that whereas Britain once turned out 80 per cent of the world's ships, it now makes only two per cent. Management and men make some strong points in tonight's film, and excellent archive film hammers the rivets home.

KALAKSHETRA-DEVOTION TO DANCE (BBC 2, 7.45 pm)

Tony Mayer's film about a centre for the performing

arts in southern India, is remarkable not so much for the degree of spirituality that attaches to the music and dance taught there, as for the artist's origins. Its founder, Rukmini Devi, in her 81st year, rescued the classic dance form of Bharata Nattam from a corrupted phase in its history (performers danced by day, were prostitutes by night, gave it new respectability, and used it as the foundation stone for her arts centre. However, when the centre describes itself now as an oasis for purity, it means only the purity of the ancient traditions of music and dance whose syllabus it exemplifies.

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Thick blue line holds as miners converge on Sheffield



Top: Police hold back pitmen demonstrating outside the NUM HQ in Sheffield yesterday before the non-ballot decision. Right: militant miners show their support for Mr Arthur Scargill. Bottom left: The agony of one injured PC. Bottom right: A head-locked protester is led away. Photographs by Brian Harris, Ian Stewart and Press Association.

Letter from Ollerton Where police collar bacon butties

Driving from Mansfield to Ollerton is like motoring to some sequestered village where an outbreak of plague has been reported, or where invasion by aliens is hourly expected.

Knots of police lurk at every crossroads, their car doors open to receive the sunshine and their plastic bollards in place along the white lines ready for an instant road block. Still, it cannot be too serious; they have not yet taken down the signposts to confuse the enemy.

The aliens have not invaded today. At the Ollerton colliery gates there are no pickets and two policemen, one of whom explains, between bites of apple, that they have all gone off to Sheffield for the day, sir. Of course; did we not see three blue van loads of the law belt past us on the road?

Nevertheless, there are more pairs of constables strolling the main shopping street of this unprepossessing north Nottinghamshire mining village than ever you would see if your wallet had just been snatched in Brixton. They are here to see that any of the 1,150 Ollerton miners who choose to work can do so unimpeded. Five weeks ago, that was a difficult task, but not today.

But is this not a village riven by dissent, with about a hundred miners obeying the strike call while the majority turn up religiously for work, and a substantial body of floating voters make up their minds depending on whether there is a picket line when they arrive at the gate. Thermos in hand, and the parting words of a hard-up wife still ringing in their ears?

Certainly not in the functional, spartan bar of the Ollerton Miners' Welfare Institute, where they will happily sign in a curious visitor as long as he does not represent *The Sun*, where those in work sink tall pints at 60p, and those on strike smuggle in cans of lager from a cheaper off licence down the road.

A middle aged miner boasts that he rescued four Yorkshire flying pickets from the attention of the police simply by inviting them into his house.

"They were real gentlemen, all of them. But I tell you their eyes popped out of their heads when they saw my home; they

couldn't believe a miner could be so well off."

He had bought his coal-board house and had added such improvements as a decorative stone arch in the hall. After five weeks on strike, he is resolved to return to work. "I'm cleaned-out now, I need the money. Mind you, I'd stay out if everybody else was out."

His drinking companion has been at work throughout. "Roy's a right idiot passing up all that money. But he's entitled to do what he thinks right. None of us wants wholesale pit closures, but you'll never get the Notts men to vote for a strike; it's too easy working here, what with the geology, and the money's too good."

"Mind you, if they shut any one of the pits round here, we'd all be out in a flash." It is, they admit, the women who hold the whiphand. "It's hard," another striker says, "when my wife goes to the shops with the mine quid I gave her last week, and she meets one of her pals with 30 to spend."

There is general agreement that widespread pit closures are an evil. "We've got to protect jobs for our children and grandchildren," another man still at work says. "If they don't go down the pits, where are they going to go? There's a waiting list of 120 school leavers with their names down for this pit, and we'll be lucky if nine of them get taken on this year."

But would he strike for the principle? "I can't afford it. I've bought my coal board house, I've had rates, electricity, and car tax this month."

A cheer goes up when news comes through of the National Union of Mineworkers' decision to hold a delegate conference. "We don't need a ballot," one working miner says. "Arthur's winning this one without it."

The main complaint is against neither Mr Scargill nor Mr McGregor, but against the massive police presence Ollerton has seen during the dispute. "Some mornings we haven't been able to get into the pit canteen," one man says. "Bloody place is packed out with coppers tucking into bacon butties."

Alan Hamilton

THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

Today's events

Royal engagements
Princess Margaret, as President, attends the Annual General Meeting of the Scottish Children's League, at Haddo House, Aberdeen, 11.55.

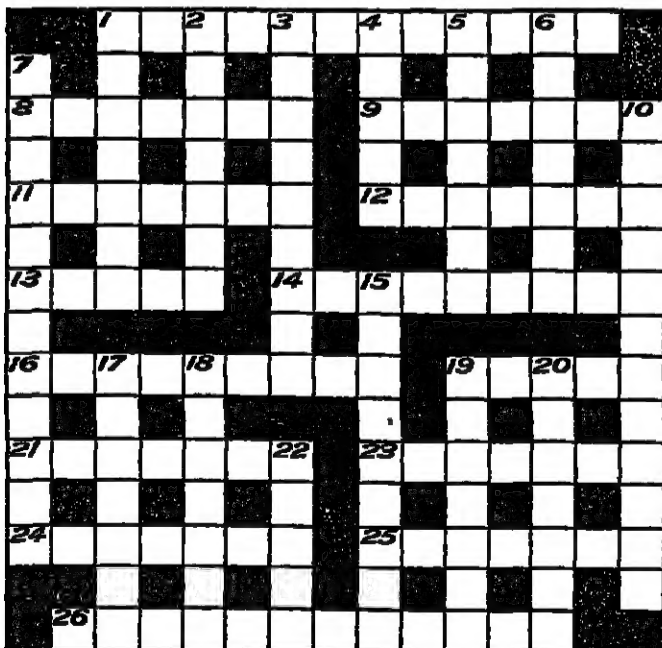
New exhibitions
Cadbury's National Exhibition of Children's Art, Walker Art Gallery, William Brown Street, Liverpool, Mon to Sat 10 to 5, Sun 2 to 5 (ends May 17).

Last chance to see
John Wragg & Henry Pimm Exhibition: Katherine House Gallery, The Parade, Marlborough, Wed to Sat 10 to 5 (ends today).

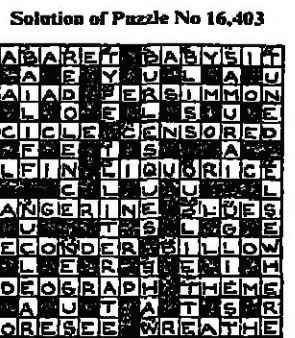
Music
Concert by Halle Orchestra, City Hall, Bakers Pool, Sheffield, 1, 7.30 p.m.
Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra, University Great Hall, Exeter.

Exhibitions in progress
Treasures of the National Library, National Library of Scotland, George IV Bridge.

The Times Crossword Puzzle No 16,404



- ACROSS**
- 1 To the Cockney a lodger is deceitful Dickensian (6,6).
 - 8 It's diabolical encompassing a strike so (7).
 - 9 Changeable - change one part (7).
 - 11 Means of expression used by washerwoman (7).
 - 12 Two thousand and one going inside celebrated, being calculating (7).
 - 13 A number work in the garden (5).
 - 14 After a party, Navy men start tidying the decking (9).
 - 16 "That's Life" broadcast - exit scene-shifters (9).
 - 19 A motorist's cautious signal (5).
 - 21 Speaking in a row about the firm holding it back (7).
 - 23 Capital investment for women in seclusion (7).
 - 24 Supplementary note the Italian enclosed in possibly distant letter (7).
 - 25 Get around some children - twin eleven-year-olds (7).
 - 26 Keeping in step with the grievance procedure (7,5).
- DOWN**
- 4 Charges involving quiet cheats (5).
 - 5 Do nothing jolly with an employee seen entering (7).
 - 6 A man withdrawn before receiving discharge (7).
 - 7 A last start (3,9).
 - 10 A doctor sees things scattered around - women's wear (12).
 - 15 Knock flat a wicket after six balls - put on a hard hat (9).
 - 17 Cutting equipment put right after coin is bent (7).
 - 18 One in three allowed on an excursion (7).
 - 19 It measures the current encountered in a foreign sea (7).
 - 20 Poor rise in growth pushing prices up (7).
 - 22 Poles, both holding a single ecclesiastical office (5).



Prize Crossword in The Times tomorrow
CONCISE CROSSWORD, PAGE 10

Parliament today

Commons (9.30): Easter adjournment debates.

National Day

The land-locked central African State of Chad celebrates its National Day today. The day marks the anniversary of the army coup in 1975 which overthrew President Tombalbaye, who had led the country since its independence from France in August 1960. Chad has been in almost constant political turmoil since 1965.

Lead danger

In a new report the Department of the Environment recommends that householders in new or newly plumbed properties should take the precaution of drawing off enough water to fill a washing-up bowl before drawing any water intended for consumption. This is particularly important in the first month of service. The report shows that lead can possibly occur in water in properties with copper piping because of galvanic corrosion of the exposed area of solder (containing lead), which is used to join the copper pipes and fittings. External Report No 125E, a condensed account of the scientific work from WRC Engineering Centre, PO Box 85, Frankland Road, Blagrove, Swindon, Wiltshire SN5 8VR, (£5.00, including postage and packing).

Anzac Day

Details have been released of Anzac Day services in Britain, on April 25 and 26 and May 13. Wreaths will be laid at the Cenotaph, Whitehall, at 11 on April 25 by the Australian and New Zealand High Commissioners, Mr A. R. Parsons and Mr W. L. Young, after which a memorial service will be held at Westminster Abbey. In Edinburgh a memorial service organized by the Royal British Legion, Scotland, will be held at noon on April 25 at the Scottish National War Memorial Shrine, Edinburgh Castle. Wreaths will be laid by the Deputy High Commissioner for Australia, Mr R. H. Robertson, and by the Head of the New Zealand Defence Liaison Staff in London, Air Commodore P. Neville. At Harefield, Uxbridge, Middlesex, a wreath laying and memorial service will be held at St Mary's Church at 3 on April 25. On April 26, in Sutton Vey, Wiltshire, a service will be held at St John's Church. On May 13 a service will be held at Leighton Cemetery, Gloucestershire (3pm).

Anniversaries

Births: Frederick North, 2nd Earl of Guilford, Prime Minister 1770-82, London, 1732; Thomas Jefferson, 3rd President of the USA 1801-09, Shadwell, Virginia, 1743; Richard Trevithick, engineer and pioneer of railway locomotives, Illogan, Cornwall, 1771; Gyorgy Lukacs, philosopher, Budapest, 1885.
Deaths: Charles Leslie, controversialist, Glashow, Republic of Ireland, 1772; Hugh Chapperton, explorer, Sokoto, Nigeria, 1827. Capture of Fort Sumter, Charleston, by Confederates - the beginning of the Civil War in America, 1861.

The papers

A national coal strike in all pits now seems likely to start early next month, the Daily Star points out. That was the real result of yesterday's extraordinary NUM executive meeting where the rules were twisted to suit a particular argument it says. "There's always something fishy when a union feels it necessary to change the rules in the middle of an industrial dispute. There's something about those moderate union leaders who give in so quickly to the Scargill assault. They let down those miners who have been fighting so hard to get to work. It is a strike that could ruin the coal industry, destroy the jobs of thousands of miners, bankrupt companies, cost more jobs and perhaps cause major political and social upheaval. Once all the miners accept that there is a national strike, they will not give in. The strike would last through next winter. That is a fact. The Coal Board and the Government cannot avoid. Can that strike be avoided? For the country's sake a realistic proposal needs to be put on the table soon. . . even if both sides are determined this morning that this will be the final showdown."

The pound

	Bank	Bank
	Buys	Sells
Australia \$	27.60	26.00
Austria Sch	82.80	78.00
Belgium F	1.89	1.82
Canada \$	14.34	13.64
Denmark Kr	8.34	7.94
Finland Mk	11.38	11.38
France Fr	157.13	157.13
Germany DM	154.80	144.00
Greece Dr	11.57	10.97
Hong Kong \$	1.27	1.21
Ireland P	2390.00	2290.00
Italy Lira	335.00	319.00
Japan Yen	4.39	4.17
Netherlands Gld	11.33	10.73
Norway Kr	195.00	185.00
Portugal Esc	1.97	1.83
Spain Ptas	216.00	205.00
Sweden Kr	11.64	11.06
Switzerland Fr	3.23	3.06
USA \$	1.48	1.43
Yugoslavia Dar	183.00	173.00

Rates for small denomination bank notes only, as supplied yesterday by Barclays Bank International Ltd. Different rates apply to traveller cheques and other foreign currency business.

Retail Price Index 344.0.
London: The FT Index closed up 2.5 at 888.6.

Roads

London and South-east: Roadworks delaying traffic between Kensington High St and M41, off Holland Road and Addison Road, Kensington. A4: Roundabout construction at Thames Bridge, Maidenhead, use M4 between Maidenhead and Slough. A23: Temporary signals at junction with A273 Pycombe Fork, Surrey, avoid.
Midlands: M11: Contraflow between junctions 16 (Northampton) and 18 (Rugby). M5: Contraflow between junction 3 (Birmingham) and junction 4 (Bromsgrove). A52: Single-lane traffic on Nottingham - Grantham road at Muston Bends temporary signals.
Wales and West: A39: Single-lane traffic in New Road, Bideford, Devon: temporary traffic signals. A38: Lane closures on A38 between Plymouth and Ivybridge at Marsh Mills. A38/A385: Traffic lights in Bridgton Hill, Tonnes.
North: A610: Roadworks along existing carriageway of Leeds Southern Ring Road, West Yorkshire, delays. A635: Single-lane traffic at Willthorpe, Gwent. Barnsley: temporary lights. A180: Contraflow on Briggs - Uleyby section between Barnsley intersection and Harborough.
South-east: A901: Mini-roundabout construction in Edinburgh: Commercial Street, traffic restrictions. A5: Single-lane traffic at Lochearnhead Bridge, Perthshire. A82: Single-lane traffic east of Ballochulish Bridge: lights, care required.
Information supplied by AA.

Airline liability

Airline liability for the death or injury of passengers is to be raised from a current maximum of £1,800 to £7,000 under international protocols to be signed by Britain. The higher limit already applies to British airlines and British domestic flights, and if the necessary 30 states ratify the Montreal Protocol to the Warsaw Convention, they will apply to their airlines too.

Top films

- The top box-office films in London:
- 1 (1) Terms of Endearment
 - 2 (2) Yentl
 - 3 (3) Swan in Love
 - 4 (4) Educating Rita
 - 5 (5) Champions
 - 6 (6) The Dresser
 - 7 (7) Trading Places
 - 8 (8) Carmen
 - 9 (9) To Be or Not To Be
 - 10 (10) Le Balcon
- The top films in the provinces:
- 1 Educating Rita
 - 2 Terms of Endearment
 - 3 Champions
 - 4 To Be or Not To Be
 - 5 Scrooged
- Supplied by Screen International

Top video rentals

- 1 (1) FLASHDANCE
- 2 (2) RAIDERS OF THE LOST ARK
- 3 (3) HALLOWEEN III - SEASON OF THE WITCH
- 4 (4) THE VERDICT
- 5 (5) OCTOPUSSY
- 6 (6) BLUE THUNDER
- 7 (7) SUPERMAN II
- 8 (8) THE DARK CRYSTAL
- 9 (9) YOUNG DOCTORS IN LOVE
- 10 (10) YOUNG WARRIORS

Weather forecast

High pressure near SE England will move away eastwards as troughs of low pressure cross NW Scotland from the Atlantic.

6 am to midnight

London, SE, central S, E, SW, central N England, East Anglia, E, W Midlands, Channel Islands, S, N Wales: Long sunny periods, dry, wind SW, light or moderate; max temp 12 to 14C (54 to 57F).
Wales and West: A39: Single-lane traffic in New Road, Bideford, Devon: temporary traffic signals. A38: Lane closures on A38 between Plymouth and Ivybridge at Marsh Mills. A38/A385: Traffic lights in Bridgton Hill, Tonnes.

North: A610: Roadworks along existing carriageway of Leeds Southern Ring Road, West Yorkshire, delays. A635: Single-lane traffic at Willthorpe, Gwent. Barnsley: temporary lights. A180: Contraflow on Briggs - Uleyby section between Barnsley intersection and Harborough.

South-east: A901: Mini-roundabout construction in Edinburgh: Commercial Street, traffic restrictions. A5: Single-lane traffic at Lochearnhead Bridge, Perthshire. A82: Single-lane traffic east of Ballochulish Bridge: lights, care required.

Information supplied by AA.

SEA PASSAGES: North Sea, Straits of Dover: SW wind variable, becoming light or moderate; sea smooth or slight chop. English Channel: Wind variable light or moderate; sea smooth or slight chop. George's Channel: Wind SW moderate; sea slight Irish Sea: SW wind fresh, locally strong; sea moderate, locally rough.

Sun rises: 6.09 am
Sun sets: 7.54 pm
Moon rises: 5.44 pm
Moon sets: 5.44 pm
Full Moon: April 15.

Lighting-up time

London 8.24 pm to 8.37 am
Ireland 8.24 pm to 8.47 am
Manchester 8.27 pm to 8.41 am
Preston 8.27 pm to 8.41 am

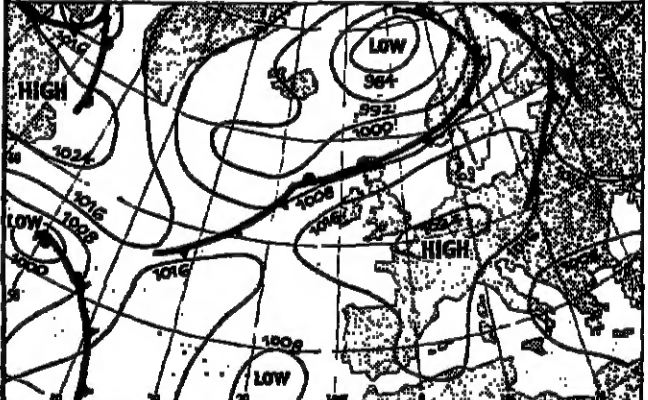
Yesterday

Temperatures at midday yesterday: c, cloud; f, fair; s, sun.
C F
London 10.1 50
Birmingham 10.1 50
Manchester 10.1 50
Preston 10.1 50
Cardiff 10.1 50
Belfast 10.1 50
Glasgow 10.1 50
Liverpool 10.1 50
Newcastle 10.1 50
Sheffield 10.1 50
Sunderland 10.1 50
Tyneside 10.1 50
Wolverhampton 10.1 50
Wrexham 10.1 50

Highest and lowest

Yesterday: Highest day temp: Jersey, 14.6C (58.3F); lowest day temp: Cardiff, 9.4C (49F).
Lowest night temp: Cardiff, 4.4C (40F); highest night temp: Cardiff, 9.4C (49F).
Winds: Highest wind speed: Cardiff, 12.4 m/s (28 mph).
Rain: Total rain: Cardiff, 1.2 mm.

NOON-TODAY Pressure is shown in millibars FRONTS Warm Cold Occluded



High tides

Location	Time	Height (m)
London Bridge	12.15	6.2
Aberdeen	12.08	5.9
Ayr	12.05	5.8
Belfast	12.02	5.7
Birmingham	12.00	5.6
Cardiff	11.58	5.5
Edinburgh	11.55	5.4
Glasgow	11.52	5.3
Liverpool	11.50	5.2
Manchester	11.48	5.1
Newcastle	11.45	5.0
Sheffield	11.42	4.9
Sunderland	11.40	4.8
Tyneside	11.38	4.7
Wolverhampton	11.35	4.6
Wrexham	11.32	4.5

Around Britain

Location	Temp	Wind	Cloud
London	10.1	11	52
Birmingham	10.1	11	52
Manchester	10.1	11	52
Preston	10.1	11	52
Cardiff	10.1	11	52
Belfast	10.1	11	52
Glasgow	10.1	11	52
Liverpool	10.1	11	52
Newcastle	10.1	11	52
Sheffield	10.1	11	52
Sunderland	10.1	11	52
Tyneside	10.1	11	52
Wolverhampton	10.1	11	52
Wrexham	10.1	11	52

Abroad

Location	Temp	Wind	Cloud
Algeria	18	18	61
Athens	18	18	61
Bombay	28	28	61
Buenos Aires	18	18	61
Cairo	28	28	61
Hong Kong	28	28	61
London	10.1	11	52
Los Angeles	18	18	61
Madrid	18	18	61
Moscow	18	18	61
New York	18	18	61
Paris	18	18	61
Rome	18	18	61
Tokyo	18	18	61
Winnipeg	18	18	61